

astrology
CONSIDERATIONS



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These Considerations



OUR 2-year-old cocker spaniel, Vini, has changed drastically these past few months. A friendly outgoing puppy, ever eager to welcome all visitors, has become timid and fearful, over-reacting to any disturbance, day or night, and becoming a shrill, incessant barker who warns off anyone who dares to walk or drive by the house. But it's all bark and no bite: a knock on the front door has Vini fleeing to the highest part of the house, from where he'll not budge unless assured the visitor is truly someone he knows and trusts. We discussed a visit to a pooch psychiatrist but then realized that Vini, a true Yankee-doodle, born with his ☉ in ♉, was simply exhibiting on perhaps a less evolved level much the same reaction as that of the United States and its president, two others with ♄ transiting their birthday ☉s.

According to texts on mundane astrology, ♄ crossing a country's natal ☉ indicates the death of its king, and for the U.S. this has meant the death of Ronald Reagan, its 40th President. The transit also points to a loss of confidence in the country's leaders, and that has become increasingly apparent. But does it say Bush will lose the coming November election? Isaac Starkman's detailed analysis, published in the last *Considerations*, says No, Bush will be re-elected. Nick Sutherland, in the present issue, argues Yes, Bush will lose. A favored author from the recent past, Cyril Fagan, writing on ♄'s transit across one's natal ☉ says that "If employed, he is in danger of being passed over, reduced in rank or dismissed..." But by Election Day ♄ will have reached 27° ♉, and be way beyond Bush's 14° ♉ ☉. Is ♄ then still effective or is it out of orb? We'll know soon enough, we just have to watch Vini. Will he still be cowering under the table or will he be jumping up to lick any hand that might potentially feed him?

Besides thoughtful discussions of these contemporary events by **Nick Sutherland** and **Sylvia Jean Smith**, the magazine you have in your hands contains insightful articles by **Anne Whitaker**, her subject is Mary Shelley, Frankenstein's creator; **Prier Wintle**, who analyzes the solar returns of a (maybe) UFO abductee; **Karen Christino** describes some of the methods used so successfully by Evangeline Adams; **Ken Paone** predicts the upcoming weather; and **Ruth Baker**, who once again demonstrates just how simple and effective Horary astrology is when tackled by traditional means.

When reviewing books and reading articles published elsewhere, a task often inflicted by duty rather than any anticipated enlightenment, your editor is often frustrated by writers who display what amounts to a minimal knowledge of elementary astrology. Accordingly, he has persuaded **John Frawley**, a respected teacher who is aware how things were done in the mythical past (those times when astrologers were respected members of the community), to explain some of the basic rudiments of our craft. Commencing in this issue and continuing over several in the future, John will explain the essential meaning of our Houses. How basic can we get? We do of course appreciate that all of our readers know everything that needs knowing about such a basic subject, but just in case you meet up with one of those imposters who wait to corner you at conferences or in your local coffee shop, the reminder may be helpful.

—Enjoy!

Bush Loses

NICK SUTHERLAND

ON 24th October 2000, I submitted an article to *Considerations* stating that Bush would win the 2000 election, which he did. Unfortunately, it was submitted too late for publication prior to the election.

I used two simple, straightforward, clear-cut methods to predict Bush's win. The first technique is Age Harmonics, conceived by Ross Harvey¹, an Australian astrologer, and popularized by Dymock Brose in his monthly *Astrologer's Forum*.

At age 54, Bush had harmonic ☉ (24°04'♊) opposite his natal MC (24°13'♈). During the election month (age 54.3333 years) he had harmonic MC (26°05'♌) conjunct harmonic ☉ (28°38'♌) within the required 5° orb. These two ☉-MC contacts clearly pointed to a win for Bush.

At age 52 Gore had harmonic ♄ (21° ♌) quincunx his natal MC (21°52' ♈), which clearly pointed to a loss.

The Hindu *Kota Chakra* charts for the 2000 election-day transits also clearly showed Bush as the winner. He had both of the main benefics (☿ and ♀) inside the palace walls while Gore's were outside these walls.

For the 2004 election, Kerry, if nominated, has age 60 harmonic² ☿ (3°09'♊) conjunct natal MC (8°12' ♊), and the election month harmonic ☿ (5°02'♊) is trine his natal MC. The age 60 MC (12°09'♌) is also conjunct natal ♀ (8°32'♌). The two ☿-MC contacts point to a win for Kerry.

Bush has age 58 harmonic MC (24°40'♈) squaring his natal SA (26°30'♏) while his election month harmonic MC (27°58'♈) squares natal ♄. These MC-♄ contacts point to a loss.

Kerry's election day *Kota Chakra*³ transits show the two main benefics, ☿ and ♀ inside the palace walls on an inbound path, which indicates that Kerry will win.

Bush's election day *Kota Chakra* transits show the two main benefics,

¹ Ross Harvey also conceived the Life Span Revolution—Editor.

² Software programs like *Nova* and *Solar Fire* will produce harmonic charts. If an individual is 35 at an event, use 35 not 36. If the individual is 35 years and 2 months old, use 35.1667 as 2/12ths is 0.1667.

³ The *Kota Chakra* is a Hindu technique used primarily to study transits causing *Arishta*, i.e. malefic effects such as disease, death and accidents. Further uses include any situation where there is an attacker and a defender, such as in court cases, elections, and the fall of existing governments.

♄ and ♀, outside the palace walls on an outbound path—another clear indication of a loss for Bush.

For those who aren't familiar with Age Harmonics or *Kota Chakra*, a quick look at the diurnals on Election Day shows the same result. Bush⁴ has transiting ♂ at 24°13'♌ opposing his IC (25°12'♍). Both are squared by transiting ♄ at 27°19'♏. Transit ♂ ♌ Mc is a classic “You don't work here anymore” contact. Kerry has transiting ♀ at 5°32'♌ and transiting ♄ at 8°04'♌ at his natal MC (5°44'♌). Diurnal MC at 28°05'♏ is conjunct his natal ♄ (27°03'♏). Transit ♄ at 20°36'♏ is conjunct natal ☾ at 18°40'♏. All point to a victory for Kerry.

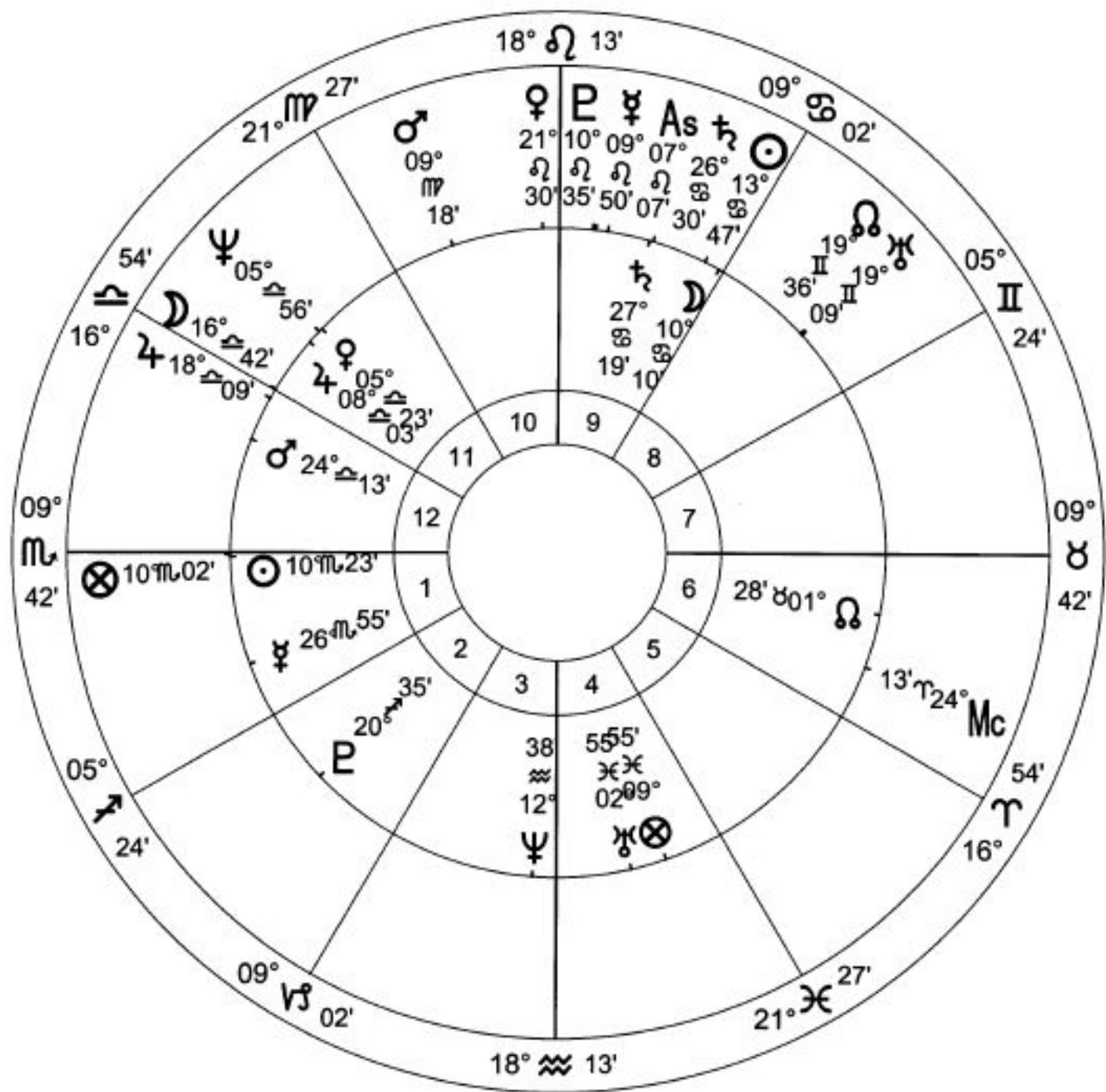


Figure 1:

Inner circle

Diurnal chart

11:26 UT

2nd November 2004

New Haven, CT

41N19, 72W55

George W. Bush

♂ t ♂ Mc r

♀ t ♂ Mc t

♀ ♄ t ☐ As t ☐ ☉ t

☉ t ♂ As t ♂ ☉ r

♄ t ♂ ☉ r ♄ As t ♄ ☉ r

Outer circle

Natal chart

11:26 UT

6th July 1946

New Haven, CT

41N19, 72W55

⁴ For Bush's birth data I am using 7:26 AM EDT (11:26 UT) on 6th July 1946 at New Haven, CT: 41N18, 72W55. However, the G. H. Bailey procedure suggests a birth time of 7:29:41 AM EDT.

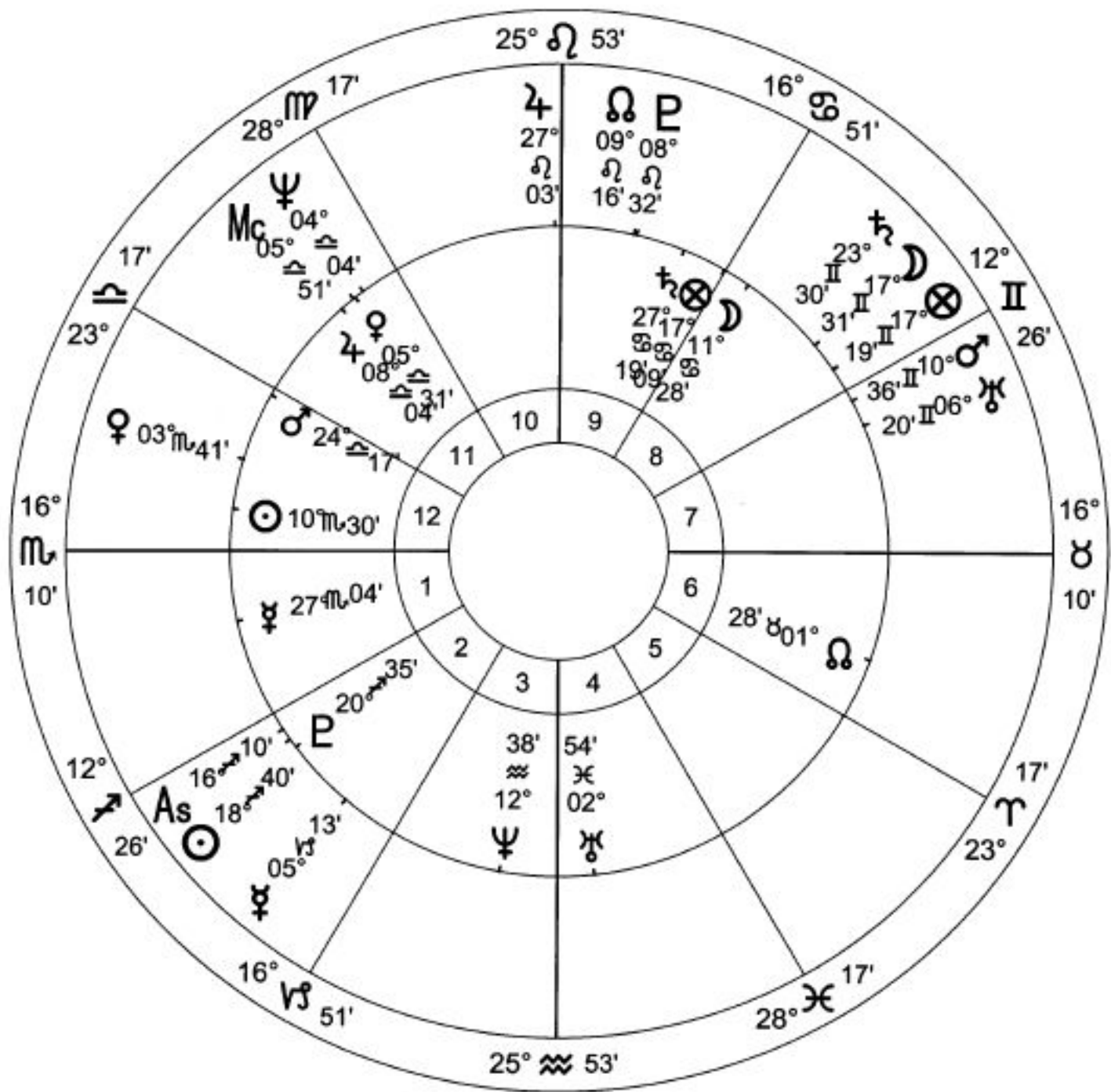


Figure 2:

<i>Inner circle</i>	John F. Kerry	<i>Outer circle</i>
Diurnal chart	Υ r σ M_c t	Natal chart
14:03 UT	Υ ϕ t σ M_c r	14:03 UT
2 nd November 2004	P t σ $\odot$ r	11 th December 1943
Fitzsimons, CO		Fitzsimons, CO
39N45, 104W48		39N45, 104W48

John Kerry's Time of Birth

THE FIRST published birth time I saw for John Kerry was 7:11 AM with no notation as to MST or MWT. A further statement suggested he was born at sunrise. Astrological sunrise on 11th December 1943 at Fitzsimons, Colorado was 8:14:29 MWT (7:14:29 MST), and astronomical sunrise was at 8:09:29 MWT.

The latest birth time being circulated, “per his Mom”, is 8:03 AM MWT. This time is not confirmed by the George H. Bailey procedure. After looking at numerous life events using solar arc directions, P2 and P3 progressions and diurnals, the most likely time seems to be around 8:11 AM MWT, which G. H. Bailey’s method validates at 8:11:29 AM MWT. Apparently, the original time of 7:11 was MST, not MWT.

Early reports gave Kerry’s birthplace as Denver, Colorado. He was actually born at the Fitzsimons (one M) Army Hospital in Fitzsimons, Colorado (39N45, 104W48 according to Thomas G. Shanks) at the time his father was hospitalized there for tuberculosis.

Events in the Life of John F. Kerry

Year	Date	Age		$\odot$ arc	Nature of event
		In Days	In Years		
1943	Dec 11	-	-	-	Birth
1966	Feb 17	8104	22.1882	22:36	Enlists in U. S. Navy
	Oct 19	8348	22.8562	23:16	Ordered to active duty
	Dec 16	8406	23.0150	23:26	Promoted to Ensign
1968	Jun 6	8944	24.4880	24:57	First tour ends
	Jun 16	8954	24.5154	24:58	Promoted to Lt Jg.
	Nov 17	9108	24.9370	25:24	Arrives in Vietnam
	Dec 2	9123	24.9781	25:27	Wounded
1969	Feb 20	9203	25.1971	25:40	Wounded for 2 nd time
	Feb 28	9211	25.2190	25:41	Kills Viet Cong. Awarded Silver Star.
	Mar 13	9224	25.2546	25:43	Wounded for 3 rd time
1970	Jan 1	9518	26.0596	26:33	Promoted to Lt.
	Jan 3	9520	26.0651	26:33	Requests discharge
	May 23	9660	26.4484	26:56	Marries Julia Thorne
1971	Apr 22	9994	27.3628	27:52	Speech to Congress
	Apr 23	9995	27.3656	27:53	Throws medal ribbons over fence at the Capitol
1972	Nov 7	10559	28.9097	29:27	Loses political race
1973	Sep 5	10861	29.7366	30:17	Birth of daughter
1976	Dec 31	12074	33:0577	33:40	Birth of 2 nd daughter
1978	Feb 16	12486	34.1857	34:49	Discharged from Reserves
1982	Nov 7	14211	38.9087	39:38	Elected Lt Governor
1984	Sep 18	14892	40.7732	41:32	Wins Democratic nomination
	Nov 6	14941	40.9073	41:40	Elected Senator
1985	Feb 8	15035	41.1647	41:56	Seated on Senate Foreign Relations Committee
1988	Apr 18	15104	41.3536	42:07	Controversial trip to Nicaragua
	Jly 25	16298	44.6227	45:27	Divorces Julia after long separation
1990	Nov 6	17132	46.9061	47:46	Reelected Senator
1995	May 26	18794	51.4566	52:24	Second marriage
1996	Nov 5	19323	52.9049	53:52	Reelected Senator
2002	Nov 14	21523	58.9284	59:58	Mother dies
2003	Jan 12	21582	59.0899	60:08	Announces his presidential candidacy
	Feb 12	21613	59.1748	60:13	Prostate surgery
2004	Nov 2	22242	60.8969	61:58	Election 2004
2005	Jan 20	22321	61.1132	62:11	Inauguration

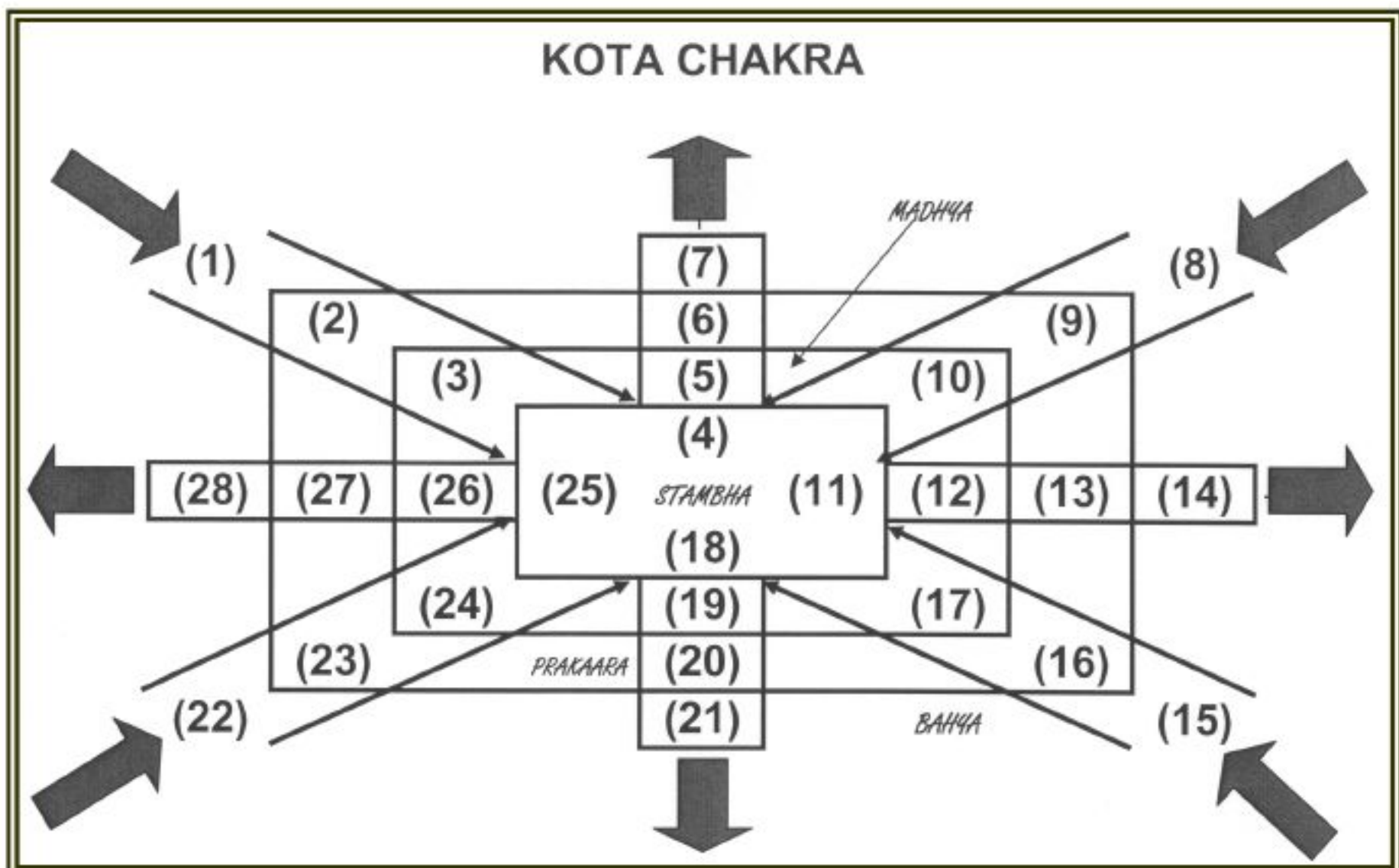
Kota Chakra



CHAKRA is a special arrangement of *rashis* (signs) or *nakshatras* (lunar mansions) to simplify the study of transits for a specific purpose.

Many astrologers in the Himalayas use *chakras* with amazing accuracy, but keep them a traditional secret.

The *Kota Chakra* is the **Chakra of the Fortress**. It is used primarily to interpret the three D's: disease, dispute and death.



The *nakshatra* of the sidereal birth $\mathfrak{D}$ (Lahiri *ayanamsha*) is entered in the upper left-hand corner of the diagram, at '(1)'. The other *nakshatras* are then entered in order following the numbers on the paths.

After the *Kota Chakra* is prepared, the planets transiting at the desired time are entered in the appropriate *nakshatras* making it easy to see which planets are on entry paths and which are on exit paths. You can also determine which planets are inside the *Kota* (fort) and which are outside.

The *Kota Chakra* has four segments. *Stambha* (pillars) is at the center and is the most sensitive portion. Next is the *Madhya* (central) position. These two portions, the *Stambha* and the *Madhya*, combine to form the inner part of the *Kota*. The next segment is *Prakaara* (boundary), and the final segment is *Bahya* (outer).

The *Kota Chakra* must be used in conjunction with the natal horoscope and its progressions in order to judge the effects of beneficial and malefic transits.

The natural malefics are ♄ , ♅ , ♆ , ♇ and the ☾ . They can become

more malefic or less malefic by house, sign, aspect and motion.

The natural benefics are ♃, ♀, ♄, and the ☽. They too can become more benefic or less benefic by house, sign, aspects and motion.

Notice that planets enter on the X and exit on the cross.

Some general guidelines:

Entering malefics are harmful. Exiting malefics are good.

Entering benefics are good. Exiting benefics are adverse.

Retrograde planets are considered to be entering on an exit path, and exiting on an entrance path.

Two other things to consider are the *Kota Swami* (lord of the Kota) and the *Kota Paala* (protector of the Kota).

This has been a brief and greatly over-simplified introduction. Those who are interested in studying this technique should consult the book *Astrological Applications of Kota Chakra* by K. K. Joshi.

Sequence of 28 natal Nakshatras for Bush & Kerry

	<i>Bush</i>	<i>Kerry</i>		<i>Bush</i>	<i>Kerry</i>
1.	Chitra	Mrigashira	15.	Revati	Mula/Moola
2.	Swati	Ardra	16.	Ashwini	Purva Ashadha
3.	Vishakha	Punarvasu	17.	Bharani	Uttar Ashadha
4.	Anuradha	Pushyami	18.	Krittika	Abhijit
5.	Jyeshtha	Ashlesha	19.	Rohini	Shravana
6.	Mula/Moola	Magha	20.	Mrigashira	Dhanishtha
7.	Purva Ashadha	Purva Phalguni	21.	Ardra	Shatbhisha
8.	Uttar Ashadha	Uttar Phalguni	22.	Punarvasu	Purva Bhadra- pada
9.	Abhijit	Hasta	23.	Pushyami	Uttar Bhadra- pada
10.	Shravana	Chitra	24.	Ashlesha	Revati
11.	Dhanishtha	Swati	25.	Magha	Ashwini
12.	Shatbhisha	Vishakha	26.	Purva Phalguni	Bharani
13.	Purva Bhadra- pada	Anuradha	27.	Uttar Phal- guni	Krittika
14.	Uttar Bhadra- pada	Jyeshtha	28.	Hasta	Rohini

Bush's natal sidereal ☽ is in *Chitra*, which becomes (1) at the upper left corner of the *Kota Chakra*, the other *Nakshatras* follow in order with *Swati* as (2), *Vishakha* as (3), and so on.

Kerry's natal sidereal ☽ is in *Mrigashira*, which is therefore (1) for him, *Ardra* is (2), *Punarvasu* is (3), etc.

<i>Transits</i> <i>2nd November</i> <i>2004</i>		<i>Location of transits in natal Kota Chakra</i>	
		<i>George W. Bush</i>	<i>John F. Kerry</i>
☉	Swati	2, entering Prakaara	11, leaving Stambha
☽	Ardra	21, leaving Bahya	2, entering Prakaara
♀	Vishakha	3, entering Madhya	12, leaving Madhya
♀	Hasta	28, leaving Bahya	9, entering Prakaara
♂	Chitra	1, entering Bahya	10, entering Madhya
♃	Hasta	28, leaving Bahya	9, entering Prakaara
♅	Pushyami	23, entering Prakaara	4, leaving Stambha
♁	Aswini	16, leaving Prakaara	25, leaving Stambha
♂	Swati	2, leaving Prakaara	11, leaving Stambha

Bush has the two main benefics, ♃ and ♀, on an outbound path in *Bahya*, beyond the outer boundary; both main malefics, ♂ and ♅, are on inbound paths.

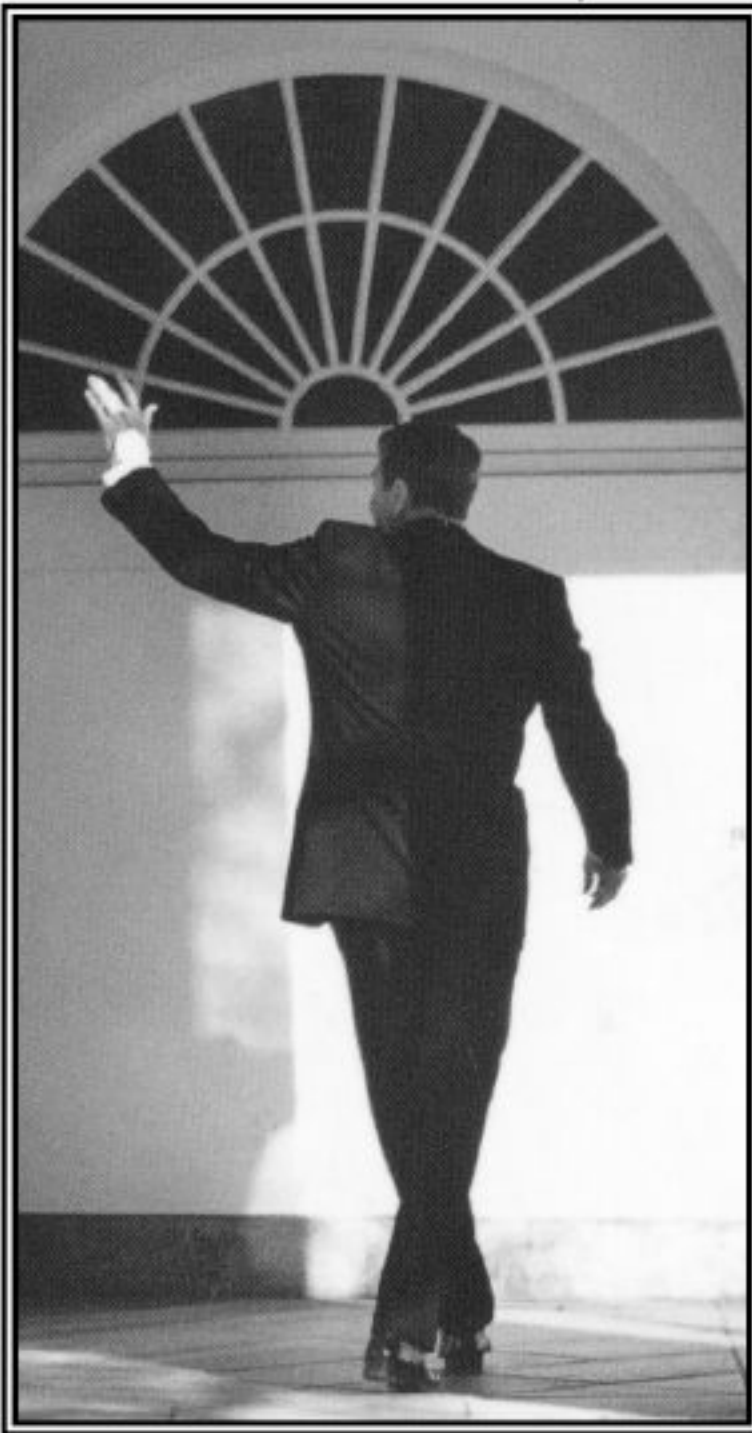
Kerry has the two main benefics, ♃ and ♀, on an inbound path inside the outer boundary (*Prakaara*). Although ♂ is on an inbound path, ♅ is on an outbound path, about to leave *Stambha*.



Ronald Reagan & his Eclipses

SYLVIA JEAN SMITH

AS SO OFTEN happens, a person comes along who is almost perfect at the time to lead a country, and in the late 1970s, when Americans were feeling the sting of the Vietnam war aftermath, an optimistic, not-so-great actor and former Governor of California sought and won the Presidency. That man was Ronald Reagan, and in essence he gave Americans back their pride in the country. More than that, he made friends with Mikhail Gorbachev of Russia, and by so doing ended the Cold War; reportedly influencing Gorbachev to tear down the Berlin Wall. At the news of his death in June 2004, tributes to Ronald Reagan were wall-to-wall on CNN and in newspapers, both in the USA and in Canada, and D-Day coverage fell into second place.



Ronald Reagan was born on February 6, 1911 in Tampico, Illinois at 04:16 AM CST.¹ He died at his Bel Air home in California on June 5, 2004 at 1:09 PM PDT.² His chart (see Figure 1) has 27° ♄ rising with an elevated ♄ exactly aspected by the ♃, the ♁ ☉ in the 2nd house is trine the MC, indicators of both the cheerful optimism he so constantly displayed to the public and his great love of horses and riding.

As Reagan's pre-birth eclipse (November 16, 1910) was a lunar eclipse at 23°45' ♄, underlining the importance of the exalted ♃ in ♄ and the exalted ♀ in ♋ at his birth. These two bodies had a great deal to do with how he approached his life ambitions. Trace the planets: ♀ is his final dispositor. She is placed nicely in his 2nd house, rules his MC, part of his 9th house of foreign affairs, and his 5th house, along with part of his 4th. Thus ♀ rules very important sections of his life, both at home and in his career. It can cer-

¹ Source: *Dutch*, the 1990 authorized biography, by Edmund Morris, page 14.

² Source: news reports on CNN.

tainly speak of an acting career, and in fact he played quite a role in front of the cameras during the Presidency years, ever the scene-stealer with a quick bit of humor, often at himself and never malicious.

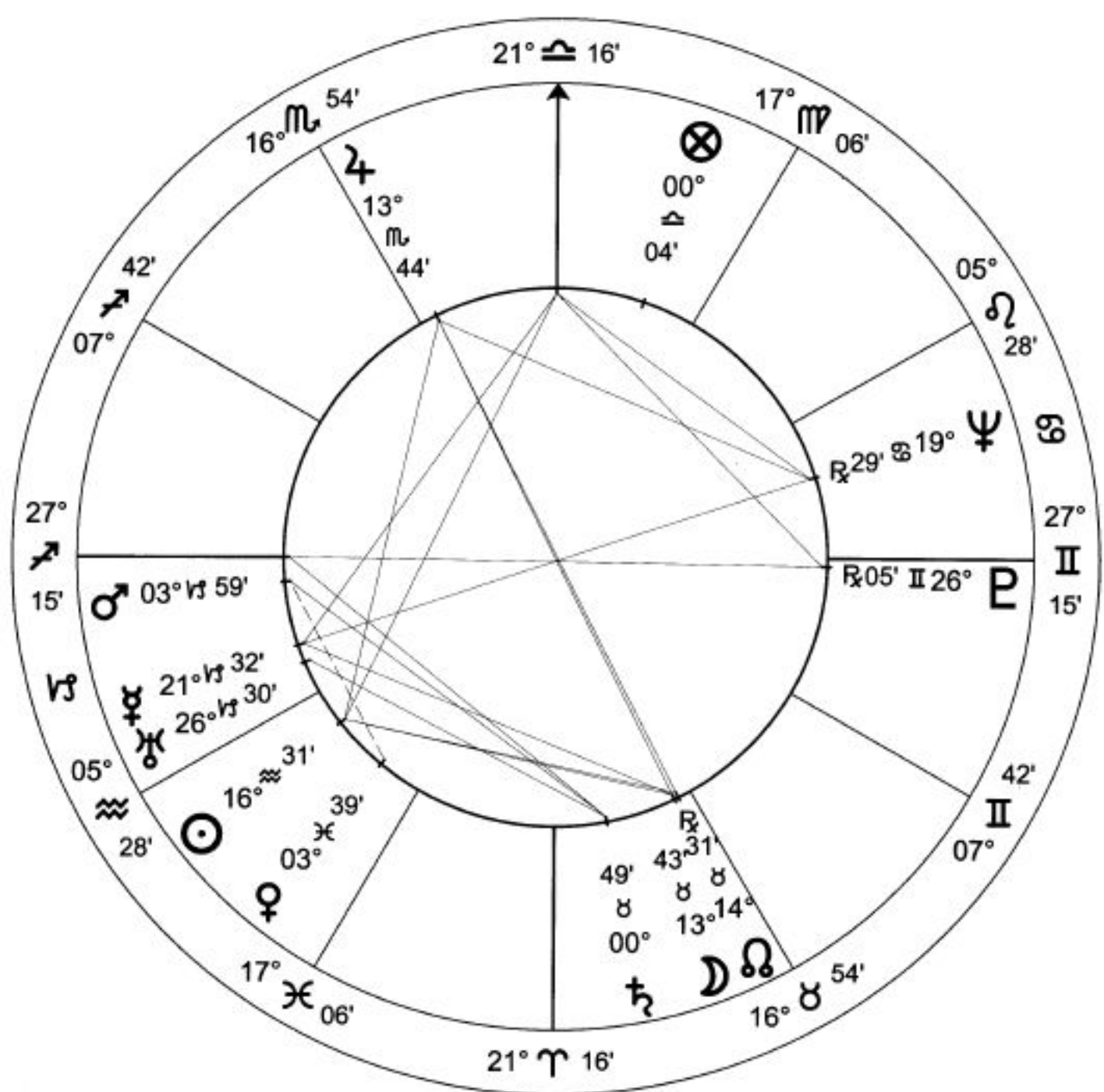


Figure 1:

Ronald Wilson Reagan

4:16 am CST (10:16 UT), 6th February 1911
Tampico, Illinois: 41N38, 89W47

Having researched pre-birth eclipses over the past several years using several hundred charts of “real” people and obtaining feedback from each, the eclipse before birth, if a lunar eclipse, opens a whole new vista of information. Men with a pre-natal lunar eclipse have an appealing demeanor, and some have mass appeal. Ronald Reagan had this quality. Others who have a pre-birth lunar eclipse and exhibit this type of popularity with their public are Al Gore, Larry King of CNN, Tiger Woods, Robert Hand and Dane Rudhyar of astrology, and Oprah Winfrey in the female gender. These people “feel”, and their egos (for everyone has one) are very often not of the “in your face” type that is sometimes displayed by those with a pre-birth Solar eclipse—Donald Trump for example.

Reagan lived an amazingly long life, his natal ☉ having reached and passed his natal ☽ in ♊ by secondary progression. He had no Fire element in his natal chart, but he did have a dignified ♂ in ♌ (the third of his three exalted planets) right up-front in the first house and actually conjunct the rising degree by antiscion, its declination out-of-bounds, that is the dispositor of his Ascendant ruler, ♄ in ♍. ♂ provided Reagan

Figure 2:
**Transits at Reagan's
Death**
1:09 pm PDT
(20:09 UT)
5th June 2004
Bel-Air, CA
34N05, 118W27

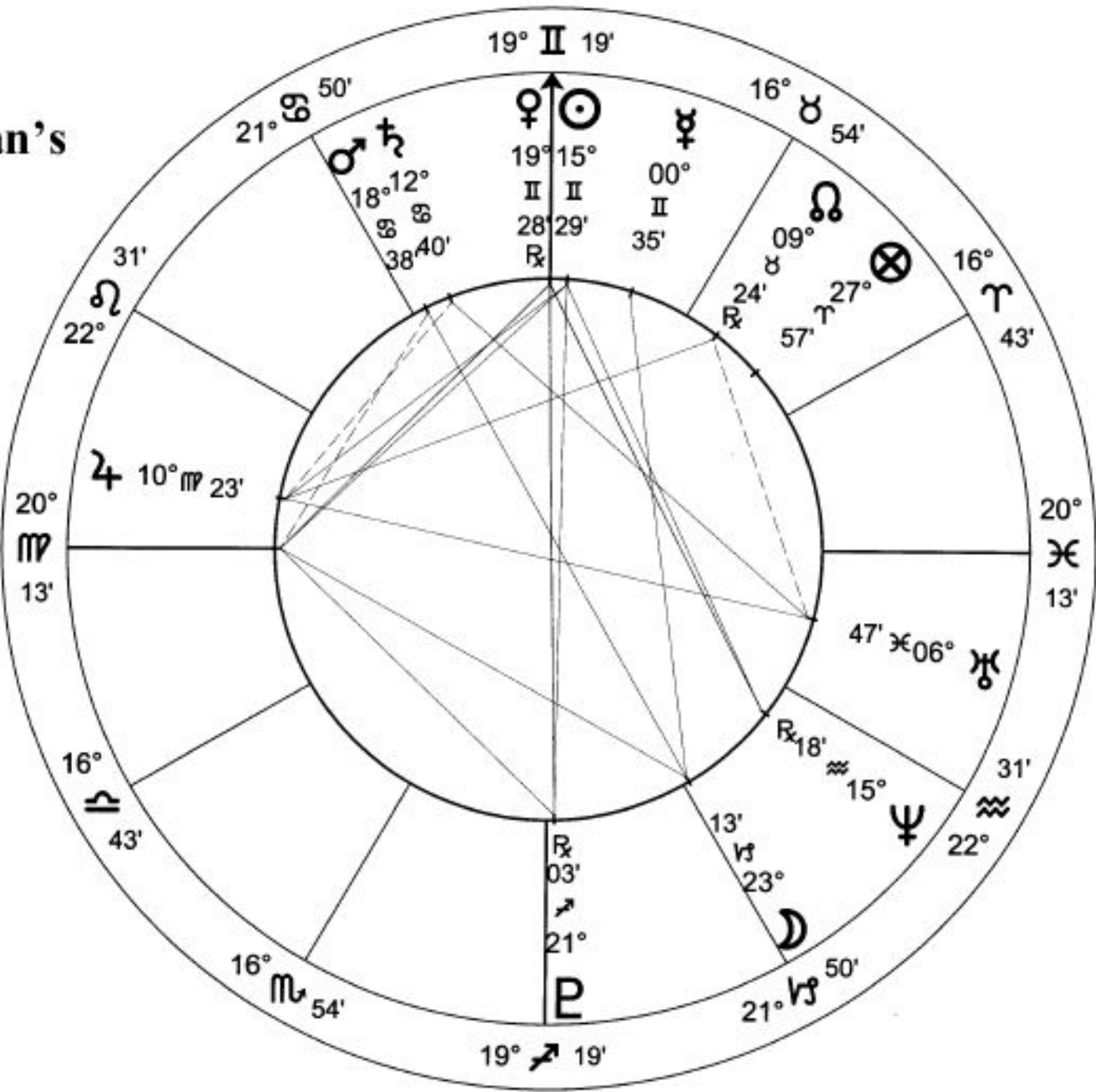
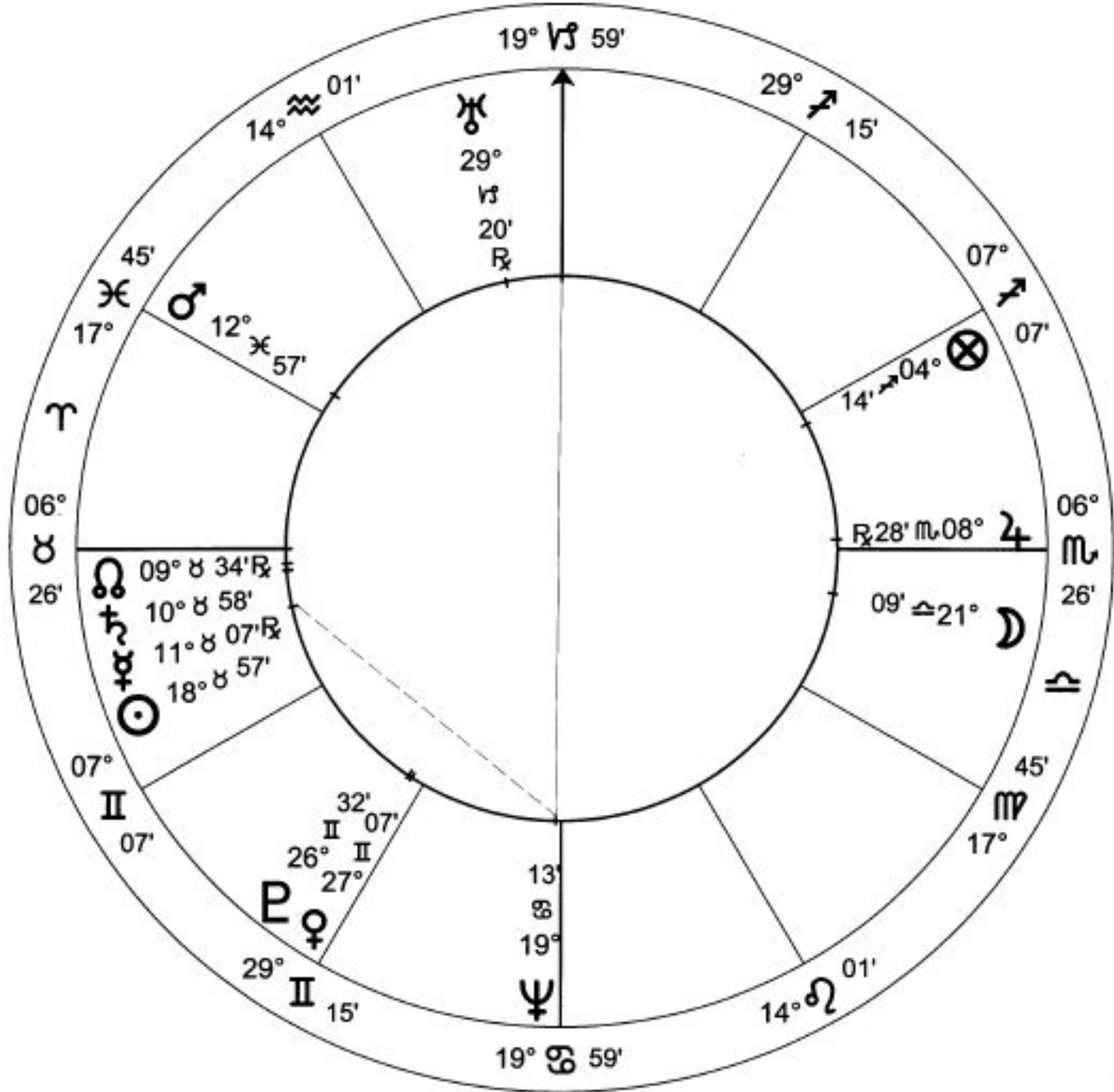


Figure 3:
**Secondary
Progressions
to Death**



with an extraordinarily strong element of ambition, courage, and passionate determination. Further, his ☉, ☿ and ♀ all progressed into ♀, energizing the Fire element, and it was at about this time in his secondary progressions, that he married Nancy on March 4, 1952, as his ☉ and ☿ were about to progress into ♀. This was only a few days after the solar eclipse at 5° ♋ on February 25th of 1952, that fell conjunct his natal ♀. Both of their lives took on new meaning in this lifetime love.

He was elected President in November, 1980, following the August 1980 solar eclipse at 18° ♎, which squared his natal ☽ ☾ ♋, and opposed his ☉. There was also a lunar eclipse conjunct natal ♀. Both eclipses ensured his success. In 1984, when he went for his second term, there was another interplay of eclipses with his ☽ and ♀, these two very important planets in his horoscope. The lunar eclipse at 24° ♍ in May, 1984 was sextile to his progressed ☽ in 20° ♎ (conjunct natal ☿); while his progressed ♀, at 4° ♌, was applying to meet the solar eclipse at 9° ♌.

In 1989, his progressed ☿ stationed at 18° ♏, near his natal ☽, and I rather suspect that this turning-retrograde phenomenon coincided with the start of the Alzheimer symptoms although this was not announced publicly until 1994. Note that on May 10, 1994 there was a solar eclipse at 19° ♏ conjunct the degree of ☿'s progressed station, and close to his natal ☽ ☾.

In 1999, the inferior ☉ ☾ occurred exactly on his natal ☽ ☾, and then on January 13, 2001 he had surgery for a fractured hip, three days after a lunar eclipse on his natal ♀, and the downward spiral began.

Ronald Reagan died on June 5, 2004. In November, 2003, a total lunar eclipse had squared his natal ☉ and opposed his progressed ☉, and on May 4, 2004, a month prior to his death, a total lunar eclipse at 14°42' ♍ fell on his ☿ and his ♋, promising release.... but wait, transit ♀ stationed turning retrograde at 26° ♌ conjunct not only his natal and progressed ♀, and opposite his natal Ascendant, but also on his progressed ♀ at 27° ♌. Add to this, in Bel Air, California on June 5, 2004 at 1:09 PM PDT, the moment when he died, the Midheaven of the chart is 19° ♌, and of course transit ♀ by then had retrograded to 19° ♌. The transit ☽, at 23° ♎, is exactly trine Reagan's pre-birth eclipse point at 23° ♏. Grand trines are often seen at the time of death, and transiting ♄ teams up to form one with Reagan's natal ♋ and his progressed ♄, all in self-contained Water.

Ronald Reagan's life is a story of ♀... ☿ in sextile at birth was just the added bonus.



The Houses¹

JOHN FRAWLEY

IN HIS classic text-book, the greatest of English astrologers, William Lilly, gives the vital prerequisites for any student of the celestial science. The first of these, obviously enough, is the ability to calculate an astrological chart.

Nowadays, the only ability that this involves is in knowing which button to push on a computer keyboard; so while there is still a certain value in understanding the mechanics of constructing a chart from scratch, the acquisition of this ability is no longer much of a barrier on the student's path to knowledge. All the more importance, then, falls on the second of Lilly's necessities: the sound knowledge of the meanings of each of the twelve houses of the chart.

This knowledge is essential. It is this, and only this, that tells us where to look within the chart to find the information that we require—and if we look in the wrong place we shall inevitably unearth the wrong information. It is probably true to say that the greatest numbers of errors in astrological judgment are made simply through looking at the wrong house.

It is worth taking some trouble, then, to consider and understand the meanings of the various houses. This is true no matter which branch of astrology we wish to practice, whether it be natal, horary, electional, mundane, or any of the minor branches.

Before we examine the houses, it is as well to cast an eye over the various methods of deciding where the boundaries of these houses fall. It is often claimed that the Equal House system of house division that is so popular today is the most ancient, but this betrays a misunderstanding of the ancient method. The old system involved taking each sign as one house—but this was the whole of that sign, not just a part of it as with the modern system. That is, if the Ascendant were in ♈, the whole sign of ♊ would form the second house and the whole of ♎ the third, and so forth. It made no difference to these other houses at which degree of ♈ the Ascendant fell. This is unlike the Equal House, which repeats the degree of the Ascendant in the cusp of each of the other houses.

This system of whole-sign houses is still the main system employed by Vedic astrologers, and in skilled hands it gives results of great accuracy. More common in the West, however, are the various unequal sys-

¹ Reprinted from *The Real Astrology Applied* by John Frawley (Apprentice Books, London, 2002), with the author's permission.

tems of house division.² The most familiar of these is the Placidian.

Just as it is commonly claimed that the Equal House is a system of great antiquity when it is not, so it is often said that the Placidus system is comparatively modern, when it has been around far longer than is usually realized. The error arises through its name, as Placidus de Tito, on whom it has been fathered, died as recently as 1688. Although he popularized the method, it can be traced back to the first millennium.

Perhaps the most remarkable thing about Placidus is that he ever managed to popularize anything, as his book, *Primum Mobile*, is dull to the point of unreadability. This may not appear to set it apart from certain other classic astrological texts, but Placidus' mastery of torpor gives his work the crown.

The major rival to this system was that of Regiomontanus. This takes its name from the pseudonym of Johann Muller, one of the greatest of mathematicians. His method works excellently for horary charts, while Placidus is verifiably better for most other purposes—not, it must be noted, through the subjective decision ‘That sounds more like me’, but through prediction of events by directions to house cusps, which are, of course, the variable between the different systems.

The First House

ALMOST ALL of the hundred-plus house systems that have been used by somebody-or-other somewhere are rooted in the Ascendant, which is the eastern horizon, the dividing line between earth and sky. This is the cusp of the 1st house, and as its role as foundation stone of the chart implies, it is of crucial significance. The Ascendant contains within it as potential all that exists in the rest of the chart.

In the ancient philosophical texts, such as the pseudo-Aristotelian *Book of Causes*, the horizon is accorded great significance. It is seen as the place where the soul assumes its human incarnation. It is this which gives the first house its major meaning as the person and body of the ‘owner of the chart’: the querent if it is a horary chart, the native if it is a birth-chart, the city or country if it is a mundane chart.

² That these systems appear unequal is an illusion. Each Placidus house, for instance, is equal in that it signifies two hours of real (i.e. in contrast to clock) time; each Regiomontanus house is equal in that it subtends thirty degrees, but of Right Ascension rather than the more familiar Celestial Longitude. It depends what we mean by ‘equal’: is my house equal to yours because it has the same number of bedrooms, or because I can sell it for the same price?

In modern astrology it is customary to see the whole of a birth-chart as being ‘this person’. In the traditional method, however, this is true only to a limited extent. Yes, the whole chart shows that person and his nature; but we can also pick out the native as one individual moving around within the chart, and locate there the other people who populate his life—brothers, sisters, partners, parents, enemies, and so forth. It is the first house and its ruler that show us the native.

Most of our judgment of the native's appearance will be taken from the 1st house and its ruler. This is quite contrary to—and rather more accurate than—the common attribution of appearance to the ☉-sign. Of particular importance here are planets in the 1st house and any planet that is in close aspect to the ascending degree. Such a planet usually has the predominant voice in determining physical appearance.

Any planet in the 1st house will also be our first choice as significator of the native's manner, or of his general mode of behavior. There will be a world of difference between the native with a dignified ♀ in the 1st and that with a debilitated ☿—most of us would much rather entertain the former to tea!

☿ in the 1st house is by no means always bad news, however. ☿ gives strength (in the sense of endurance) and resilience, while the 1st shows the body. So provided ☿ has some sort of dignity his placement there is a good testimony of a robust constitution and long life.

While the 1st house shows the body as a whole, the body is also shown by the whole chart, working downwards from the 1st at the top to the 12th at the toes. Specifically, then, the 1st shows the head. It is a fair bet that anyone you know with a scar or patches of pigmentation on his face has ♂ in the 1st house.

This association with the head is something that the 1st house shares with ♄. But, in an important difference from modern astrology, the traditional association of signs and houses in this manner begins and ends with parts of the body. The ‘Alphabetical Zodiac’ that equates ♄ with ♂ with the 1st house, ☿ with ♀ with the 2nd and so on has no place in the traditional view of the craft. The association of planet with house in this pattern is never used in traditional astrology, as it makes no sense in the light of the inner meanings of the various houses. The house/sign comparison is indeed most valuable: but only when used for medical or descriptive purposes.

As the Ascendant is the first of the houses it is ☿, the first of the planets, that belongs there, not, as the moderns would have it, ♂. ☿ is the god of doors, ruling our goings out (he also rules the 8th house) and our comings in. He rules the body—hence his attributes of weight and solidity. He rules all boundaries, such as the skin, within which our soul is now encased. And, of course, the greatest of all boundaries is that which separates what is alive from what is not alive, and it is this dividing line that is shown by the Ascendant.

Although ♄ is the planet associated with the 1st house, and as we have seen, he can be fortunate when placed there, it is ♀ that actually gains in dignity by being there. The 1st is the house of ♀'s *joy*. The connection here, on a superficial level, is between the head and the reason and loquacity that are placed within the head. On a deeper level it takes us back to the idea of the 1st being the boundary between the immaterial and the material, the doorway into incarnation. So ♀'s joy here gives us a picture of the Word (♀) made flesh (1st house).

Also redolent with meaning is the association of the 1st house with our name. Name is something of greater significance than is commonly accorded it today. Our name images our essence; the deepest part of our nature, that which makes me me and you you. That our given name is thus associated with the innermost part of our nature is why certain tribes have a taboo against revealing personal names to strangers, feeling that this knowledge will give the stranger power over them. When progressing the birth-chart, it is typical to find the sign on the Ascendant changing when the native changes her name. This is, indeed, one of the most reliable indications for rectifying a chart—if we are fortunate enough to have such an event with which to work. In the horary questions which occasionally arise on the merits of changing a name we will look at the ruler of the Ascendant and see if it is happier where it is, or where it is going. This will show whether or not the change is beneficial.

While ♀ is stronger when in the 1st house—the reason, we might say, being in the head, where it belongs—the ♃ does not like being there at all. The ♃ and ♀ form one of the many pairs into which the seven planets can be divided, and if one of them is happy somewhere the other will usually not be.

The ♃ is our emotional nature, and as such it does not fit well into environments where our reason is content. It is also the significator of the psychic substance of the soul, its unhappiness in the 1st house mirrors the soul's ambivalence at finding itself in the body. On the one hand it is excited at the range of experience that now lies before it; on the other it is horrified at the weight and constriction that this incarnation involves.

In a natal chart, the ♃ in the 1st house feels herself too much exposed, as if the protective veneer that keeps our finer feelings from the vicissitudes of life is too thin. This placement is a strong sign of a changeable nature. This is not changeability in the way that, for instance, ♊ will change, driven by the endless curiosity that it holds. This is changeability from over-sensitivity. The ♃ in the 1st might remind us of those occasions when we have been sitting far too long in one place: we keep changing, shifting from one buttock to the other as we try to make ourselves comfortable. This is very much the condition of the ♃ in this most uncongenial of positions: try as it might, change as it may, this sensitive nature cannot find a situation where it feels at home.

In an electoral chart the 1st house has prime importance. It shows the

enterprise itself, and it also shows the instigator of this enterprise, who is usually the person for whom the chart is being constructed. It is vital, then, that the 1st house is made as strong as possible: we want to put our man in the best position.

It is important also that the nature of the 1st house should reflect the nature of the enterprise. If it does not, it is as if we were making a start at an inappropriate time. If we want the job to be over and done with as quickly as possible, it is unsuitable to begin when a fixed sign is rising: that would give delay on all occasions. If, however, we are building for the long term, a fixed sign is exactly what we need.

The particular field in which our enterprise lies should also be shown by the sign on the 1st cusp. If we are opening a library, for instance, we would want an air sign on the Ascendant. If it were a fire-station, we would go for a water sign; if a garden-center, we would prefer earth.

In a mundane chart, the 1st shows the general state of affairs in that place, whether it be the chart of a town or a country. It also has particular reference to the common people. If, then, we were examining the T ingress chart in a particular place to find out what the weather would be like, we should look at the 1st house.

Finally, we must always pay especial attention to whatever fixed star is rising over the Ascendant. In no matter what sort of chart we are considering, the influence of such a star acts much like the wording on the title page of an old play. If we see the word 'tragedy', we know we are in for trouble; if we see 'comedy' we know everyone will live happily ever after. Indeed, it is not inaccurate to view the first house as being the 'title-page' of the chart. Everything else in all the other houses just expands and amplifies what we find here.

To be continued



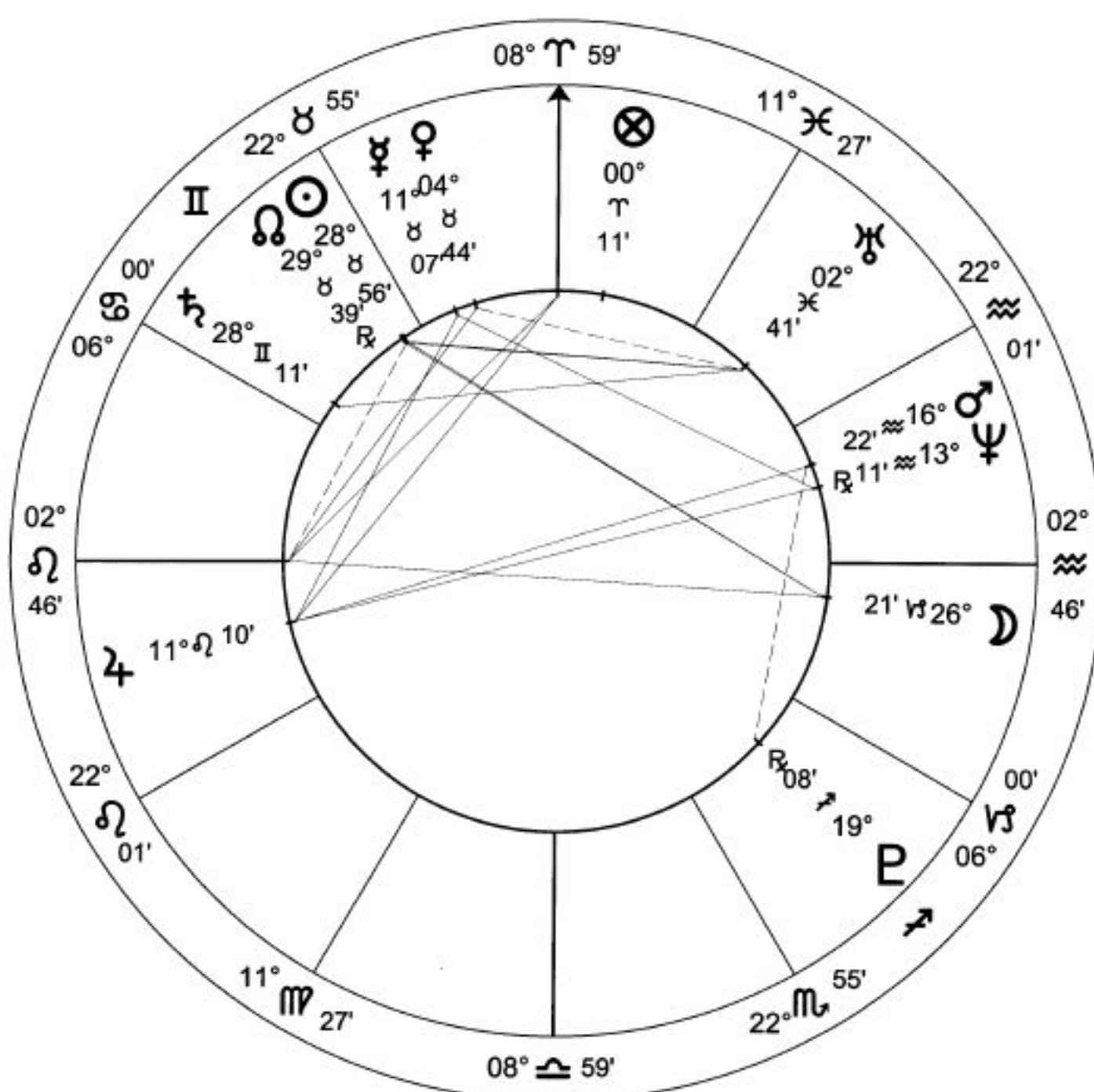
What Time Will the Men Come?

RUTH BAKER *DTAstrol. QHP. CMA*



HIS IS an example of an extremely simple chart.

I had ordered and paid for two new beds and had been told that the men would deliver them and remove three old beds between 9 a.m. and lunch time. As it was an extremely busy day I was anxious to get on with some work, but thought that there was no point in starting if the upheaval was imminent.



What Time Will the Men Come?

8:38 AM GMT, 20th May 2003; 51N48, 1E09

♀ hour, ♂ day; the hour ruler is angular

♌ from ♌ ♀ to ♌ ☉

I am signified by the Ascendant ruler, the ☉. The ♌ is my co-significator. The ♌ in the 6th house shows that workmen were very much on my mind—we were in the middle of major house renovations at the time. The beds, belonging to me because they were paid for, are also signified by the ☉, which is in the 11th house of my hopes and wishes. The firm we were dealing with is shown by the 7th house and its ruler, ♋, also in the 11th. The men the firm hired to deliver the beds are shown by the 6th house from the 7th, namely the radical 12th and its ruler, the ♌.

Immediately obvious is the fact that the ♃ applies to a trine aspect with the ☉. Even though the ☉ and ♃ are horribly weak, this assured me that the beds would arrive. But at what time? The distance between the ♃ and the ☉ is 2° 36'. Knowing that the beds could not be delivered before 9 a.m., I took the timing in hours rather than in minutes—thus mixing reason with Art! This told me that the beds would arrive in just over two and a half hours from the time of 8:38 a.m. GMT, when the chart was set, giving a delivery time of 11:14 a.m. The men, together with the beds, arrived at 11:20 a.m., just six minutes after my estimated time. However, I found out later that the van had actually arrived about five minutes earlier, but that the men had been ringing the bell at the next door house! I was pleased to have set a chart; because by that time I had done a good two hours work at my desk.

	<i>Sign</i>	<i>Exalt</i>	<i>Trip</i>	<i>Term</i>	<i>Face</i>	
☉	♀	♃	♀	♂	♂	Peregrine Detriment
♃	♂	♂	♀	♂	☉	
♀	♀	♃	♀	♀	♃	Peregrine
♀	♀	♃	♀	♀	♀	
♂	♂	-	♂	♀	♀	
♂	☉	-	☉	♀	♂	
♂	♀	-	♂	♂	☉	
⊗	♂	☉	☉	♂	♂	



At bottom, all our experience assures us of only two things, namely, that there is a connection among our appearances, which provides us the means to predict future appearances with success, and that this condition must have a constant cause.

—Gottfried Wilhelm Leibniz

Mary Shelley: Frankenstein's Creator

ANNE WHITAKER

MARY SHELLEY'S LIFE, like her husband Percy Shelley's, has been subject to many interpretations over the years. The basic facts are as follows:¹

Her mother was the progressive feminist writer Mary Wollstonecraft, her father the equally progressive philosopher and writer William Godwin. Mary was born on 30th August 1797, and her mother died on 10th September, in her late 30s. This early loss left a painful emotional void in Mary. Her father re-married in 1801 when Mary was four, bringing her a stepmother whom she always hated, and two step-siblings Charles and Jane. She grew up in a highly intellectual household with distinguished literary visitors, for example the writers Samuel Coleridge and Leigh Hunt. Her precocious intellectual development was nurtured by her father.

She first glimpsed Lord Byron in 1811, and briefly met Shelley on 11th November 1812. In the spring of 1814 she met Shelley again. On Sunday 26th June, at her mother's graveside, they declared their love—an evening that decided her destiny. They eloped to Europe (Shelley was married) on 28th July and returned to London on 13th September to set up home together. On 22nd February 1815 their daughter Mary was born prematurely. She died on 5th March. On 24th January 1816 their son William was born.

On 2nd May 1816, having previously met Byron, they sailed to Italy with Mary's step-sister Jane, newly pregnant by Byron, and their son William. On 27th May they had their first meeting with Byron in Geneva. On the night of 16th June Byron proposed that they all write a ghost story. In the early hours of 22nd June, Mary had the dream/nightmare in which the plot of *Frankenstein* came to her.

On 29th August 1816, the party minus Byron returned to England and settled in Bath. On 7th October, Mary began to write *Frankenstein*. On 9th October, Fanny, Mary's elder half-sister, committed suicide. On 15th December, Mary and Shelley had news of Shelley's wife Harriet's suicide. Mary and Shelley married on 30th December 1816, witnessed by her stepmother and father William Godwin, who had disowned Mary since

¹ I have taken the facts for this biographical summary from *Mary Shelley, Romance and Reality* by Emily W. Sunstein (John Hopkins University Press, Baltimore 1989).

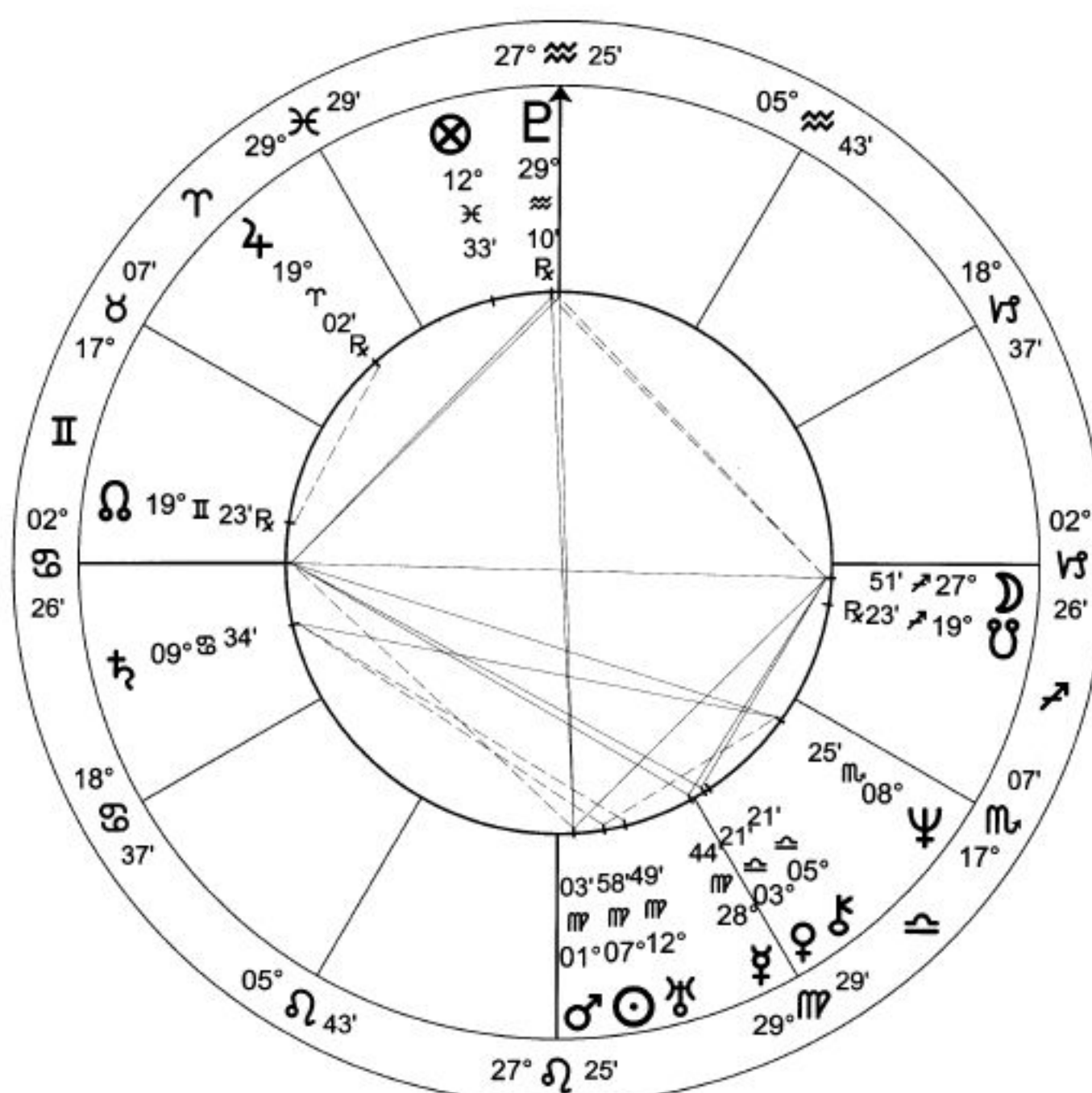


Figure 1:

Mary Shelley
11:20 PM LMT, 30th August 1797
London: 51N30 0W08²

her elopement while still continuing to borrow money from Shelley.

On the 13th May 1817 Mary finished writing *Frankenstein*, and on the 14th Shelley, who had supported and encouraged her throughout the whole process, wrote the preface. It was eleven months after her dream. In late August the book was accepted for publication; on the last day of 1817 she received her first bound copy of the three volumes. The official publication date was 11th March 1818, in London, although the book was actually published on 1st January 1818.³ On the 12th March 1818 the Shelleys and their entourage left England for Italy, where Mary was to remain until July 1823. By the summer of 1818 she knew from letters and reviews that her novel was a sensation. By the time she returned to England the novel had “soared beyond literary success into the domain of a classic...”⁴

On 2nd September their second daughter, Clara Everina, was born in London. On 24th September, she died in Italy, in Venice. Their 3-year-old son, William, died in Rome on 7th June 1819. On 12th November 1819 she had Percy, the only child to survive of the four who were born. She never fully recovered her physical health or emotional resilience af-

² Source: her father, present at the birth.

³ From Sally Davis of *Data Plus UK*. Her source: *Times* 1st January 1818, p 4.

⁴ Sunstein, p. 252

ter these terrible losses. In her depression following William's death she withdrew from everyone, even her beloved Shelley, for long periods.

But her worst loss was yet to come. She and Shelley were sharing Casa Magni, a large converted boathouse on the Gulf of Spezia with various friends in the summer of 1822. In the spring her half-sister Claire's daughter Allegra by Byron, died of typhus in her convent school. On 16th June Mary miscarried at 3½ months and nearly bled to death. She, Shelley and their friend Jane Williams had bloody nightmares and frightening visions and premonitions that month. On 1st July Shelley left, Mary begging him not to go, to sail to Genoa with Edward Williams to meet other friends there.

On the 19th July, their friend Trelawny told Mary and Jane that he had seen their husbands' bodies washed up on the shore near via Reggio. They had apparently drowned in a storm on 8th July 8th. Over 15-16th August 1822, Trelawney, watched by friends Hunt and Byron, performed the grisly task of exhuming and cremating Shelley's and Edward Williamson's bodies on the beach where they had been washed ashore. Quarantine regulations prevented the bodies from being buried.

In 1823, on 25th July, just before the ninth anniversary of her elopement with Shelley on 28th July 1814, Mary Shelley returned home to England with her half sister and her one surviving child. She was never to live abroad again.

Since this case study concerns her life up until she wrote *Frankenstein*, I shall ignore the rest of her life. She died of a brain tumor at the age of 53 on 1st February 1851, attended by her devoted son Percy and his equally devoted wife Jane. Emily W. Sunstein's conclusion to her book puts forward the essence of Mary Shelley's life very clearly:

Mary Shelley was an important Romantic who survived into the Victorian age. Her private life, career and works are a rich resource for that historical evolution, a broader mine than those of her great associates, Shelley and Byron, whom kind death saved from erosion. Far from being subjected to romantic turbulence, she chose it. Aspiration, enthusiasm, challenge, active mind and spirit, and optimism were among her cardinal qualities, contrary to the impression that she was temperamentally cool, quiet and pessimistic... her creative and scholarly works establish her as a major literary figure of the first half of the nineteenth century. She belongs among the great editors for her editions of Shelley's works... Perhaps she will be best remembered for her perception in *Frankenstein* and *The Last Man*, that the Promethean drive is at the heart of human progress and yet a bringer of new ills if not focused on ethical means and ends; and even so, if Nature shrugs we perish. In that ambiguity she may be said to have heralded the consciousness that dis-

tinguishes the Post-Modern from the Modern Age.⁵

MARY SHELLEY was born on 30th August 1797 as aberrant storms swept Europe, the tides of political passion generated by the French and American Revolutions still ran high, and the Romantic⁶ movement in literature was at its height. Her life profoundly, dazzlingly and poignantly reflected her time.



I have chosen to write about her for several reasons. The first is purely subjective. From the moment I first set eyes on her horoscope it has compelled and fascinated me. As an astrology teacher, I have used it in most of my interpretation classes since the late Eighties. The second reason also arose some years ago, when I realised that she had conceived the plot of *Frankenstein* the summer before her 19th birthday and finished writing it before she was twenty. For me, this highlighted the 18.6-year Nodal return cycle, the significance of which I had by then begun to observe.

Looking more closely at the 12th house placement of the Ω in her chart, and how it linked so strongly with Υ , $\mathbb{X}$ and $\mathbb{P}$, set me reflecting upon how and why she as such a young woman had been chosen to offer us a warning via *Frankenstein*, her masterpiece, of what the consequences of mankind stepping over moral limits in the pursuit of scientific discovery might be. This warning has resonated down the decades since *Frankenstein* was published in 1818; it is more relevant than ever as we pass the millennium, and the pace of technology-led progress leads us fast into dangerously uncharted physical, emotional, ethical and spiritual territory.

I was watching a TV programme on the development of the horror movie genre not long ago⁷, in which there was a dramatic re-enactment of the famous night of the 16th June 1816 in Geneva in which the poet Byron proposed that he, their friend Polidori, Mary's husband (Shelley) and Mary all write a ghost story. The TV programme followed with an enactment of the early hours of 22nd June 1816—Europe was being ravaged by terrible storms, repeating the theme present at Mary's birth,

⁵ Sunstein, pp. 402-3.

⁶ *Romanticism* (the Romantic Movement)—*The Oxford Companion to English Literature* Editor M. Drabble, Oxford University Press 1995, pp. 853-4.

⁷ The series, *Nightmare—the Birth of Horror* (BBC2), was presented by Christopher Frayling. This particular episode, *Frankenstein*, was transmitted on 17th December 1996.

when Mary had a ghastly waking dream in which the core plot of *Frankenstein* came to her. I thought that the chart of this dream *should* have powerful Nodal links with Mary's chart. It did—even more so than I could have hoped. Thus my case study began to come into focus.

There is a great deal to say about Mary Shelley. But I will be exploring her life only until the start of her second Nodal cycle, keeping my focus on relationships and events which led to her authorship of *Frankenstein*.

MARY SHELLEY'S Ω falls in Π . To me, this denotes a life path centred round the conceptualising and disseminating of information and ideas. The $\mathcal{U}$ in $\mathcal{X}$ shows philosophy, education and learning, and the developing of an ethical base for life as well as a desire to proselytise from that base, as a fundament to Mary's life. Love of learning, a restless, questing, travel-oriented spirit, and an appreciation of the perspective which comes from exposure to different languages, cultures, and a broad knowledge base, all characterised her inherited gifts and the cultured context from which her journey through life began.

It also suggests, taking the wide conjunction to the $\mathcal{D}$ to back this up, a longing from the beginning for a "grand", adventurous life—for a life infused with vision and the possessing of a big canvas upon which to paint a vivid picture. Her political and artistic context was the aftermath of the French and American revolutions and the impact they would have on the fabric of her time—and the Romantic movement in art and literature into which her nature fitted so well.

Also indicated in this linking of $\mathcal{U}$ and $\mathcal{D}$ is a distaste for the restrictions of the ordinary and mundane, and the potential for arrogance through conviction of one's own rightness. Blake's famous line "*the road of excess leads to the palace of wisdom*"⁸ also comes to mind. Playing Big Momma Benefactress to a bunch of gifted but feckless, frequently penurious fellow writers seemed to take up an extraordinary amount of her time and resources throughout her life—one can see her penchant for this role in $\mathcal{U}$ in $\mathcal{X} \propto \mathcal{D}$ in the 6th House!

The Ω in Π conjures up the image of a thrust towards taking the gifts she was given and putting the inspiration provided therefrom into words, getting her ideas out into the world. It also denotes frequent changes of environment whilst attending to this core task—and sibling issues playing an important part in the whole scenario, as indeed they did with her step-sister Jane/Clare/Claire Clairmont (who liked changing her name!) dogging Mary's footsteps for much of her life. Restless movement and frequent change were very much part of Mary's and Shelley's life—perhaps the Ω in Π demanded this as a way of shaking free her ideas.

⁸ From *The Marriage of Heaven and Hell* by William Blake.

When contemplating the location of the Ω , in the 12th house in one of the Gauquelin plus zones⁹, the image of the big picture comes in again, from a different perspective. Here is someone the thrust of whose life path demands an offering of her ideas in such a way as to reflect the hidden, unconscious currents running beneath the surface of her time—and perhaps a sending out of images which would be borne on those currents to provide insights to generations as yet unborn.

The location of the $\mathfrak{U}$ and $\mathfrak{D}$ in $\mathfrak{X}$ in the 6th House, opposite the Ω in Π in the 12th, conjures up a picture of the visionary writer, in touch with the currents of the collective unconscious of her time through the 12th house Ω , having to struggle to extract her vision from the mire of the mundane which was forever besetting her, as the contradictory 6th house location of the glamorous $\mathfrak{U} \propto \mathfrak{D}$ in $\mathfrak{X}$ shows all too clearly.

The nuts and bolts of ordinariness—of the body, of routines, of maintenance tasks which keep the main thrust of life running smoothly, strike me as a major provenance of the 6th House. Mary had trouble with ordinariness all her days—until he died Shelley protected her from the sharpest edges of their constant financial troubles. She regularly moved her goods and chattels, relatives, friends and children around. Her health was always delicate, childbirth drained her, and the deaths of three of her children made it impossible for periods of time to dredge up any inspiration to offer through the 12th house Ω .

Looking at the planets aspecting the Nodal axis offers further sharp images of the nature of her life's path and her struggle to actualise it. Mary had a strong masculine side which her horoscope clearly portrays. $\mathfrak{U}$ is retrograde in $\mathfrak{T}$ in the 11th House, exactly $\Delta \mathfrak{U}, * \Omega$. Emily Sunstein sums this up :

Aspiration, enthusiasm, challenge, active mind and spirit, and optimism were among her cardinal qualities... it was her incapacity for resignation to cold reality that eventually wore her down.¹⁰

The location of $\mathfrak{U}$, ruler of the $\mathfrak{D}$ and $\mathfrak{U}$, in $\mathfrak{T}$ in the 11th shows how group associations, frequently involving famous men, usually encountered at home, shaped her life's path. $\mathfrak{U}$ falling on the *southern* side of the Nodal axis, trining/sextiling the Nodes, indicates gifts from the past that could be used productively by Mary in actualising her full potential—as indeed they were. There was her father, the renowned social philosopher William Godwin, and his salon, which brought Mary in contact in her youth with such as the poet Coleridge. Hearing him reading from *The Rime of the Ancient Mariner* had a profound impact on her which came

⁹ *Written in the Stars* by Michel Gauquelin, Aquarian Press, 1988, p. 120.

¹⁰ Emily W. Sunstein, *Mary Shelley, Romance and Reality* (John Hopkins University Press, Baltimore 1989), p. 402.

out much later in some of the imagery in *Frankenstein*¹¹.

She met her husband Shelley through Godwin when Shelley was a young acolyte. She met Byron through Shelley. It was in the company of Byron and others that she was challenged to write the ghost story which became *Frankenstein*.

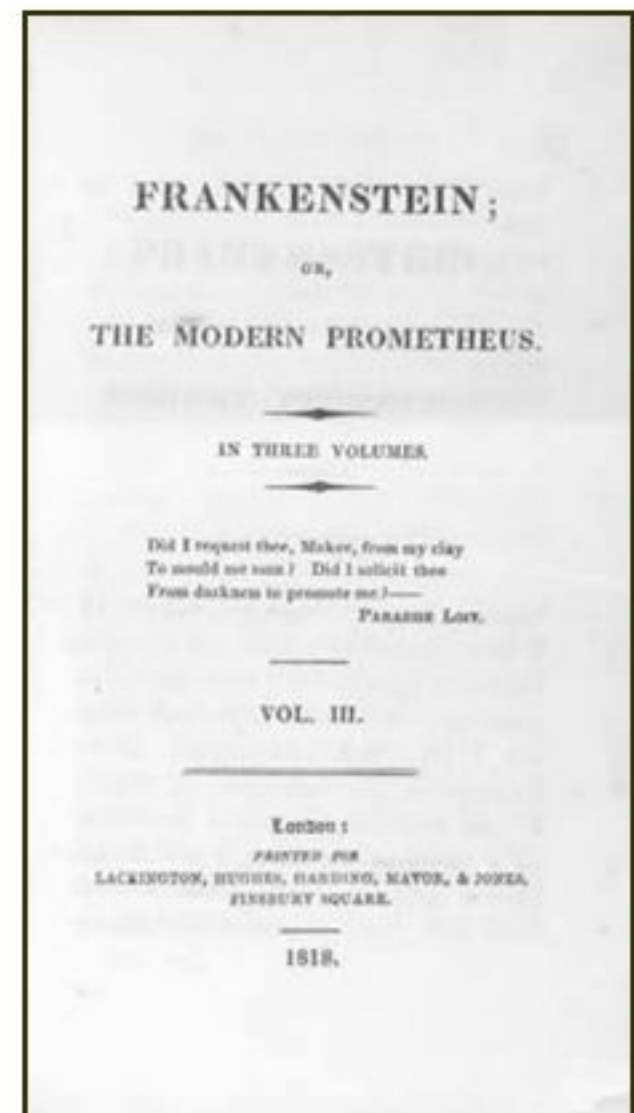
Perhaps ♃ in ♀—retrograde—shows an early leap to fame (with transiting ♃ conjunct her ♀ when *Frankenstein* was published), which was never to be replicated, although she remained in the public eye as a writer, editor and critic. I think it also shows the arrogant and unrealistic side of her optimism. For example, by eloping with the still-married Shelley in her teens in the early 19th century, and having an illegitimate child, she flouted convention to such a shocking degree that she was never ever accepted back into the mainstream of society, despite her expectation that this would eventually happen. This social ostracism caused her great pain all her life although she eventually learned to live with it.

♃ (ruling MC and disposing ♀) in the 4th house in ♀, squaring the Nodal axis, is the most vivid signifier for her unorthodox inheritance, her own defiance of convention, her connection with Shelley, and her authorship of *Frankenstein* which assured her place in literary history. The signifier is strengthened if we extend it to include the ♀/♃ midpoint, ♀/♂ midpoint, and ♀/♂ midpoint—all square the Nodes between 18° and 20° of ♀. This major T-square, as we will see, is powerfully linked with key individuals in her life who challenged her to grow, and with events critical to the unfolding of her destiny.

Frankenstein; or The Modern Prometheus is the full title of Mary Shelley's first and most famous book. In the myth of Prometheus lie core images of Mary's own origins; the times in which she lived; the essential nature of Percy Bysshe Shelley born like her with ♀ ♂ ♃; the way in which she defied convention; the price she paid—and, most of all, in the central theme of her masterpiece.

Like a number of modern astrologers I am inclined to associate the planet ♃, mythologically, with Prometheus. I am particularly in debt to Richard Tarnas for his fine essay "Prometheus the Awakener"¹², which argues a persuasive case for this association.

In essence, Prometheus in Greek mythology was a Titan who stole some of the fire of knowledge from the gods and gave it to humanity to



¹¹ Muriel Spark, *Mary Shelley* (Constable & Company, London, 1988), p. 159.

¹² Richard Tarnas, *Prometheus the Awakener*—Auriel Press, Oxford, 1993.

help them in their development. For this hubristic act the gods punished Prometheus savagely. He was chained to a rock, and during the day an eagle came and pecked out his liver, which grew again during the night so that he could be subjected to the same pain the next day, *ad infinitum*.

The myth of Prometheus speaks most vividly, dynamically and poignantly of the human condition. We seem driven by an unceasing restless quest to push back the frontiers of knowledge, thereby defying our limits as mortal human beings chained to the programmed lifespan of the body and the inexorable cycle of birth, growth, flowering, decline and death which governs everything in existence.

I perceive the struggle to be what we can most fully **be**, through being forced to confront our limits, or choosing consciously to wrestle with them, to be at the heart of the ☉-♌ dialectic which the Nodal axis seems to focus. Combining ♄ with the Nodal axis conjures up a particular dynamic:

It was as if each Uranus aspect reflected the ‘liberation’ of a specific archetypal impulse—Prometheus liberating the Mercury impulse of ideas and language and communication, for example, or liberating the Venus impulse of art and beauty and love... Each natal aspect between Uranus and another planet seemed to represent a distinct mutual activation of the corresponding archetypes.¹³

This quote applies very clearly to Mary Shelley’s horoscope with its powerful ♀-♄-♂-♂ emphasis through the dominant T-square and corresponding midpoints.

To appreciate the full challenging, mould-breaking power of Mary Shelley’s vision and its expression in her writing, imaged symbolically in the above T-square, it is important to look at the overall context in which the planetary-Nodal pattern is set.

The T-square’s mutability shows the ceaseless reaching out into the realm of ideas and their expression which so characterized Mary Shelley’s life, and the state of restlessness and dissatisfaction which was typical of much of it. The ♀-♄ combination has already been discussed—♀, ♄ and dominant mutability, without anything to ground them and give them substance, could have produced a life with a lot of hot air being generated with no great end result.

But ♄ in the fourth house demands of mutability, of ♀ and ♄, that they earth, take shape, serve in some way—that they base themselves somewhere, take root. Planting in carefully tilled soil, tending and growing, then harvesting, are all images conjured up by ♄. Mary Shelley had to produce something unusual, something startling, from the carefully

¹³ Tarnas, p. 39.

prepared and planted intellectual and political soil of her early nurturing. That something, shown by the $\odot \propto \mathbb{X}$ in $\mathbb{M}$ and its attendant pattern, would need to break through the bounds of convention regarding the social mores of her time.

We can see through her biography how fully she lived out the Promethean imperative symbolized in her horoscope, in her personal life—and the price she paid for that.

In the story of *Frankenstein*, the issue of the rupturing of the integrity of the body is central to the whole plot. Frankenstein creates a unique and uniquely repugnant body, from the stolen parts of corpses. In this he is striving for a form of physical perfection which is unique—he is going where no man has gone before, and creating life itself, thus taking on the role of the Creator. The punishment of the gods for Frankenstein's spectacular piece of hubris that goes horribly wrong makes for reading which still chills one to the bone.

Nature brings its rhythms, its cycles, its seasons—and we are firmly rooted in the physical. $\mathbb{M}$ tells us this clearly. So the body itself, and the seasons and cycles of human life, and what happens when that is artificially ruptured in the name of progress and change, are centrally important factors in the themes of Mary Shelley's writing.

$\mathbb{X}$ in $\mathbb{M}$ and the attendant midpoints closely square the Nodal axis from the *northern* side. To me this speaks of Mary Shelley's path involving an invocation, through her presentation of *Frankenstein* to the world, of the *future* impact of scientific advance on the very smallest, most intricately detailed threads weaving the tapestry of physical life: our DNA and our genes.

It is useful to contemplate the wider symbolic influence of the $\mathbb{X}$ - $\mathbb{P}$ cycle, in trying to create a context for Mary Shelley's vision which stretches from just before her birth to our own time. She was born five years after the $\mathbb{X} \propto \mathbb{P}$ from Ω to $\approx$. This opposition was exact at $21^\circ \Omega$ - $\approx$ —closely sextile and trine her Nodal axis, close to her MC/IC axis—in 1792, the year of the foundation of the first French Republic, three years after the French Revolution. Revolution was in the air of these times—political, social and scientific as befits $\mathbb{P}$ in $\approx$. The old order was inexorably being challenged, breaking down, changing.

When $\mathbb{X}$ and $\mathbb{P}$ then met in $\mathbb{M}$ during the 1960s, we had a unique decade of social, political and scientific revolution : the French student riots of 1968, protests in USA which led to the end of the Vietnam war, and the micro-technology revolution leading to our current computer dominated, Internet facilitated global village.

With $\mathbb{P}$'s entry into $\nearrow$ in 1995 and $\mathbb{X}$'s entry into $\approx$ the same year, we had the first sextile from the 1960's conjunction, and the fruiting of the micro-technology revolution accelerated. Amongst many stunning developments since then of a scientific and technological nature, we have had the rise and spread of the Internet, and a major acceleration in the

pace of the human genome project to map all our genes, which has led to increasing knowledge of how to manipulate the fundamental structures of both human and animal life.

The presentation to the world of Dolly the Sheep on 26th February 1997 was a major event in the boldly going juggernaut of contemporary science. It has also generated tremendous public unease and disquiet as we see nature being manipulated, often grotesquely, on a regular basis. “Frankenstein” as an adjective is often to be heard these days—“Frankenstein food” for example. Furthermore, the initial choice of name for the famous sheep was Mary—after Mary Shelley, the author of *Frankenstein*.¹⁴

Examination of the symbolism of ♄’ dynamic placement in Mary Shelley’s horoscope, then tracking the ♄-♁ cycle to the present day, shows the powerful thrust to use her inherited gifts not just to create an image of the Promethean changes which were occurring in the pursuit of scientific progress in her own time. The 12th house location of the ♀ ♄, and the northern location of ♄, powerfully evokes the capacity that visionary artists—painters, musicians, writers—have always had: to offer up images of the far future. The myth Mary Shelley created in writing *Frankenstein* is still full of vibrant life nearly two hundred years later.

THE ROLE of the eclipses, as galvanizers for the energy shifts that push individuals to become what they can most fully be, is central to the Nodal story. Mary Shelley’s pre-natal total solar eclipse at 3½° ☾ (9th June 1797) runs through her whole life as a key point of significance, in terms of connections to the most important people and events in her life which shaped her destiny. It appears in the first house of her natal chart, within one degree of exact conjunction with her Ascendant, which is 2½° ☾, ☿ ♄ (the Descendant ruler) rising. It exactly squares ♀ (12th House ruler), which conjuncts ☿ in the 5th House. It also squares ♀ (12th House ♄ ruler) in the 4th House, and opposes the ♄ ♄ (Chart ruler) in the 6th House.

This solar eclipse is therefore an extraordinarily potent force, driving Mary *forward* to give creative form and meaning, through her writing and her powerful links with the collective unconscious, to very painful experiences of separation and loss in relationships, involving children, partner and mother. The driving power of her own painful, bleak feelings of emotional insecurity and woundedness can be felt almost palpably from the planetary symbols.

The pre-natal total lunar eclipse at 19° ♄ (24th June 1797) is just as clear in the thread it runs through the weave of her whole life, key people, and significant events. It appears as the exact ☽ degree in her natal

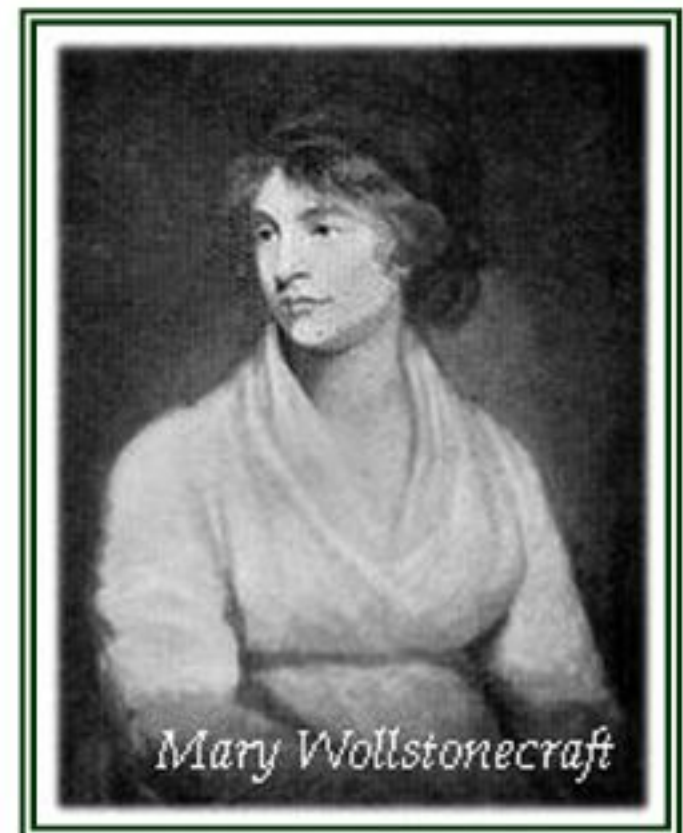
¹⁴ From “Peter Clarke’s Diary”, *Sunday Times*, 30th November 1997.

chart, widely conjunct the $\nearrow \text{D}$ (her chart ruler), exactly Δ4 (her U ruler) in the 11th House. This pattern, and the powerful Nodal T-square involving J the MC ruler and its links has already been discussed. I think the lunar eclipse casts a bright light on her inherited gifts from the past, but the strongly *northern* emphasis which the J/Q midpoint brings to the Nodal axis means that the lunar eclipse's energy is also enlisted in the service of the future. There is a strong pull towards the past and a retreat from her destiny indicated by the $\text{U} \text{ } \text{ } \text{D}$ potentized by a lunar eclipse—but J won't allow it, nor will $\nearrow$ which is a future-oriented energy. What this strong conflict evokes for me is a poignant sense of Mary having to struggle to extract her vision from the mire of the mundane which was forever besetting her, as the contradictory 6th house location of the glamorous $\text{U} \text{ } \text{ } \text{D}$ in $\nearrow$ shows all too clearly. Her health was always delicate, childbirth drained her, and the deaths of three of her children made it impossible for periods of time to dredge up any inspiration to offer through the 12th house Ω .

I will track some of the most obvious pre-natal eclipse links with key people and events at the end of each following section. There are also other striking eclipse links, apart from the pre-natal ones, which I think are worth mentioning.

IT IS RATHER difficult, perhaps presumptuous, to attempt to state who have been the most important people in anyone's life. But from the perspective I am offering on the Nodes, I would assess her parents William Godwin, Mary Wollstonecraft, and her husband Shelley as the key enablers over time in the expression of Mary Shelley's gifts. I would also add two others, as vital catalysts in Mary's capacity to conceive of and give birth to *Frankenstein*. Firstly her baby daughter Mary, her first, illegitimate child: born on 22nd February 1815, died 5th March 1815. And secondly, Byron.

Despite her child's very short life and tragic death, I believe that without such brutal experience so young she would have lacked the emotional depth, plumbed by experience, to portray with such a moving sense of desolation and loneliness the plight of the abandoned Monster in *Frankenstein*. By the time she conceived *Frankenstein* on 22nd June 1816, while still only eighteen, and sat down to write it on 7th October that year, she had experienced one child's birth and death, and her second child's birth on 24th January 1816. Two days after starting to write *Frankenstein*, her half sister Fanny committed suicide. Shelley's wife took her own life on 15th December. Mary and Shel-



ley married on 30th December and some time in December she must have conceived Clara Everina. By the 13th May 1817, the day she finished *Frankenstein*, she was five months pregnant with her third child. I cannot recall any writer having such a devastating personal context, so young, within which a classic of world literature was conceived and came to birth.

Mary had very mixed feelings about Byron, as had everyone who ever met him. His combination of beauty, charisma, predatory, powerful and amoral sexuality, linguistic and artistic brilliance, moral equivocation, aristocratic origins and the wealth and power that went with it, all repelled and drew her in equal measure. There is no doubt that his presence in her and Shelley's lives acted as a major catalyst on the conception of *Frankenstein*. Indeed, it was Byron's glamour which drew the Shelleys and their family to join him in Geneva in the summer of 1816.

It was in Byron's residence at Villa Diodati, where Milton had once stayed, after a night of reading chilling tales, that he issued the famous challenge to Mary, Shelley, their friend and physician Polidori and himself that each should write a ghost story. Less than a week later, in the middle of a violent storm, the sleepless Mary had a waking nightmare or hallucination in which she saw the scientist she would later call Victor Frankenstein overseeing "*the hideous phantasm of a man*"¹⁵ which he had created from corpses.

Given the significance of all those mentioned to the fashioning of Mary's destiny, one would expect to see powerful Nodal links between her chart and theirs. There are many powerful and moving links between Mary's overall chart and the charts of each person appearing in this section, and indeed in the various synastries. But apart from the occasional other link which is too striking to resist mentioning, I am confining my comments to Nodal links. Primarily, how the charts tie in with Mary's Nodal axis; secondarily, how individual's Nodes link in with Mary's own Horoscope. So immediately visually striking are these Nodal links that a commentary is scarcely required!

IN THE CHART of her mother, Mary Wollstonecraft, ♀ at 25° ♊ in the 5th house squares ♋ in ♏ in the 8th—the waxing square of the ♋ ♌ ♀ that charged up the Industrial Revolution. This links with Mary's ♏ ♌ at 19° and 27° ♊ in the 6th house, and squares her ♏-ruler ♏ at 28° ♏ in the 4th. The midpoint of her mother's ♏ ♌, 21° ♏, squares Mary's Nodal axis and opposes her ♏/♏ and ♏/♀ midpoints at 20° ♏.

What an inheritance for her daughter! The overall feel of this is of Wollstonecraft handing on the baton of her creative power of expression

¹⁵ From the Author's Introduction to the Standard Novels Edition, 1831, p. 9.

as fuel for her daughter’s need to propel her ideas and concepts out into the wider world. ♃, ♁ and ♀ in the mother’s chart are picked up by the Nodes in her daughter’s. These disruptive energies would emerge and be given worldly form in her daughters’ scandalous, defiant, unconventional life, expressed through her 10th house as her writing and her all-too-public life with Shelley.

This inheritance also gives Mary the task of giving form to images of the turbulent and powerful disruption which modern science was to bring to the very core values of life itself. Through *Frankenstein*, Mary warned us of the dangers to which the hubris of modern science, with its disregard for the ancient rhythms and patterns governing all levels of earthly existence, would expose us all. As I write this (17th November 1997) there have been reports in the papers that, in the move towards human cloning, one eventual outcome—of growing headless human bodies for use as spare parts for surgery—is being thought of as a possibility...

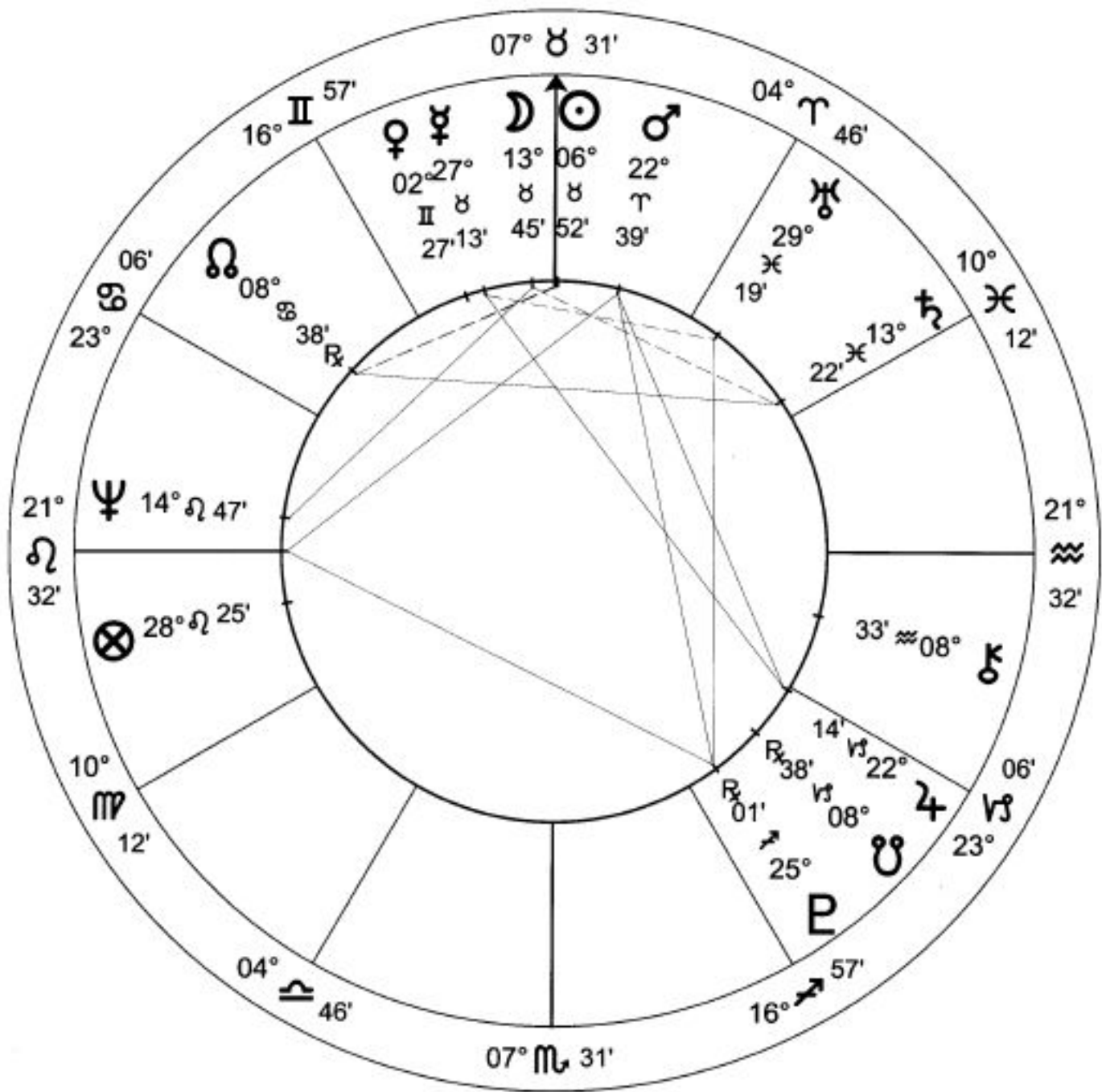


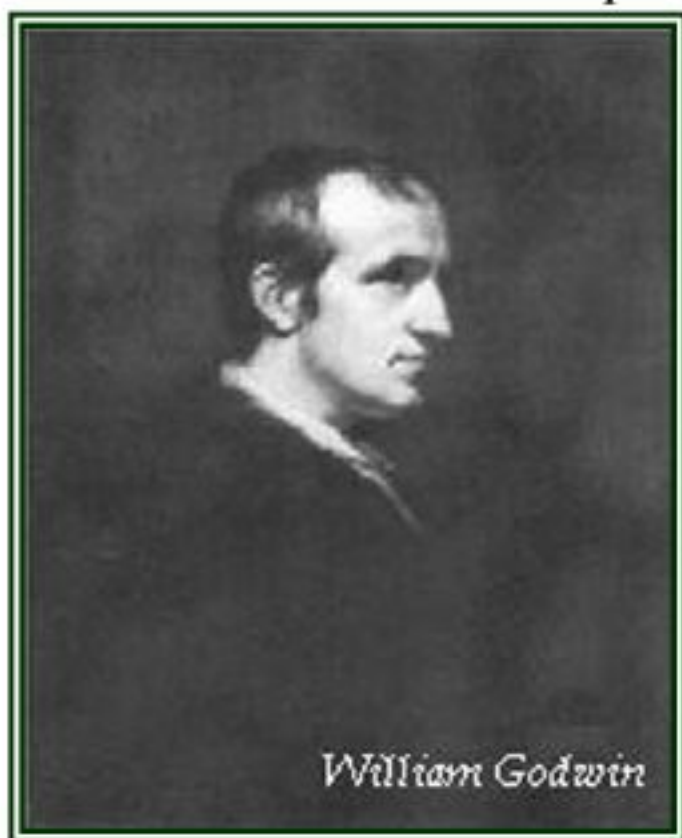
Figure 2: **Mary’s mother: Mary Wollstonecraft**
27th April 1759; London
Time unknown¹⁶

¹⁶ A noon chart is shown here because Mary Wollstonecraft was a public figure, destined to lead a public life, who lived long enough for her contribution to be made, despite her premature death immediately following Mary’s birth

At a more personal level, there is such poignancy in seeing Wollstonecraft's ♀ at 8° ☿ being picked up by Mary's ♀ rising in the first house at 9° ☿. The legacy of maternal deprivation and the loneliness welling up from it which was to color Mary's whole personal life with its dreadful losses, and play an important part in shaping her writing, is starkly pictured here. The ♀-ruled ♀ in the 11th house, also speaks of Wollstonecraft's commitment to her fellow women—an example that her daughter would live out in her own life in her defiance of traditional restrictions on the role of women in society, and pay for by social isolation.

THE CHART of William Godwin, her father, has equally powerful links with Mary's Nodes. Godwin's Nodal axis widely crosses Mary's, at 11° ♀/♂ to her 19° ♀/♂. What Mary and her father did *not* share was emotional intimacy; what they *did* share was a restless and questing intellectuality and need to study, learn, share ideas, and work to bring their ideas to fruition. The most striking link is shown in Godwin's ♀/♂ midpoint in ♏ in the 10th house, exactly ♀ Mary's ♀/♂ and ☉/♀ midpoints at 20° ♀, forming a close Grand Cross with Mary's Nodal axis.

In this one can see clearly how Godwin's revolutionary ideas sparked a bright fire in Mary's developing political and intellectual life from an early age. He was her main teacher (she was never formally educated) and she was an eager, avid, and very hard-working pupil. This habit of study and learning continued in the company of Shelley. No matter what turbulence they were going through, reading, writing and discussion of serious literature took up hours daily for all their years together.



One can also see through the ☉/♀ ♀/♂ links between their charts what a catalyst Godwin was for linking her with unconventional, revolutionary male writers who would play such an important part in the unfolding of her life's path. Growing up, her home had some of the most famous men of the age come visiting. She heard the poet Coleridge read from his *The Rime of the Ancient Mariner* when she was still a child.¹⁷ She met Shelley through her father. And she met Byron through Shelley.

It is quite stunning to note how the Ω , $\odot$, $\mathbb{H}$ and $\mathfrak{F}$ are in almost the same alignment, though in different signs, in both father and daughter's chart. How could she do other than marry a $\odot$ - $\mathbb{H}$ man?

¹⁷ Sunstein, *op. cit.* p. 40.

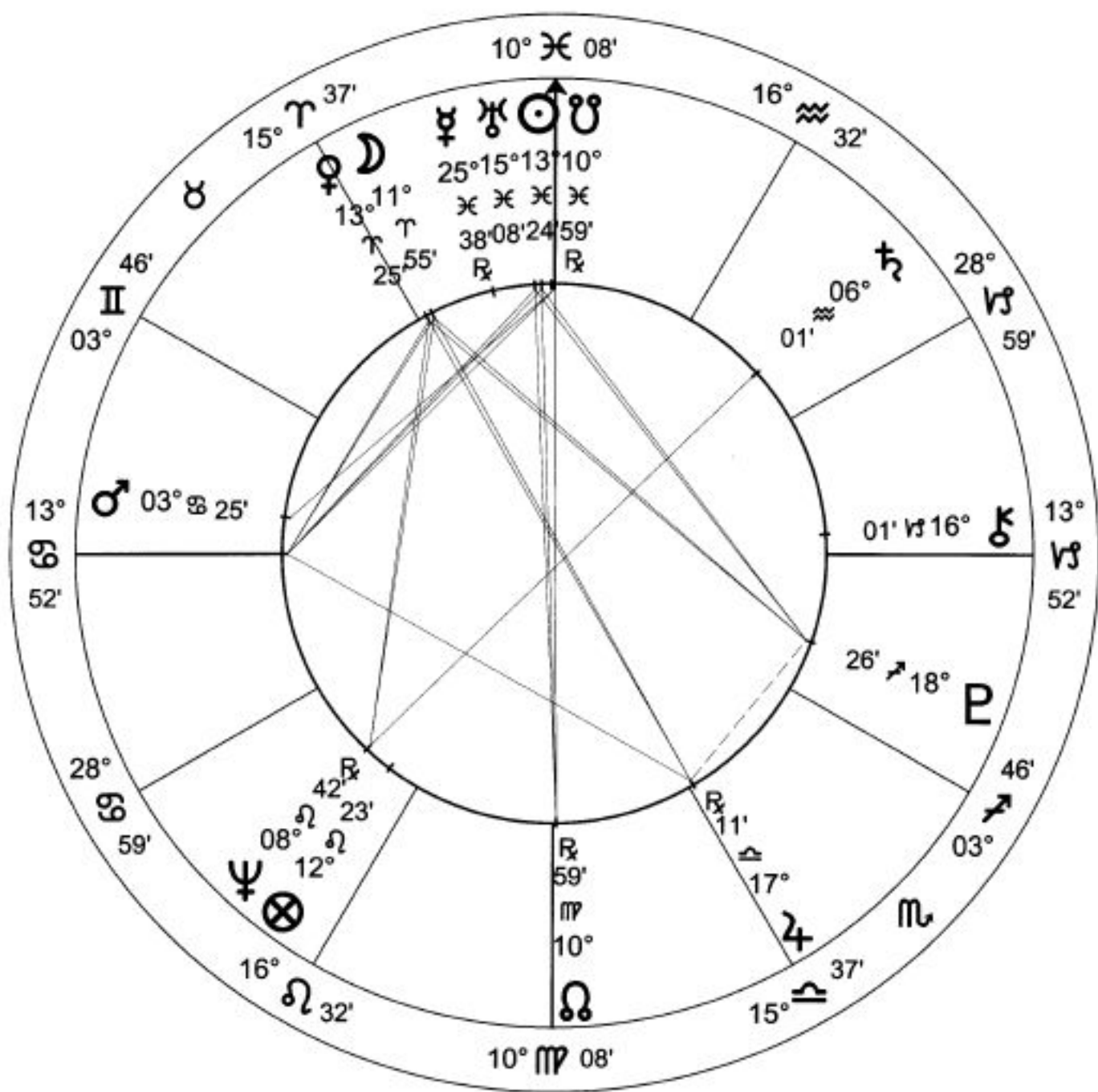


Figure 3: **Mary's father: William Godwin**
3rd March 1756: Wisbech, England: 52N42, 0E05
Time unknown. Noon chart used for same reasons as the mother.

AS INDEED she did... I would urge the reader to read Emily Sunstein's account of Mary and Shelley's life together. The story bowls along at a merry and turbulent pace, leaving the reader exhausted and marveling. Only the blithe energy and naiveté of youth saved the pair of them from going completely round the bend... and many of their contemporaries probably thought that they already were! Their Nodes form a grand cross, with Shelley's ♋ in ♍, just as Godwin's was. Shelley's ♋ at 25° ♍ thus picks up Mary's 20° ♍ ♀/♂ and ☉/♀ midpoints, again bringing a similar tone to the links between Mary and her father. So there is the same atmosphere of sharing, the same restless and questing intellectuality and need to study, learn, share ideas, and work to bring their ideas to fruition that I commented on in Mary's relationship with Godwin.

What is strikingly different is brought out in the symbolism of Shelley's ♄/♂ midpoint in ♈ in the 12th house—falling in Mary's 10th house, square her 12th house ♋. I would take



from this strong images of a deep "soul bond" between the couple, and of Shelley's powerful empathy for his wife's links to the collective unconscious, hers for his, and the undercurrents running beneath the times in which they both lived. Shelley was a great supporter and enabler of his wife's work, as she was of his: he wrote the first preface for *Frankenstein* for her¹⁸, and after his death she edited and put together an acclaimed version of his collected works.¹⁹ But the feeling I get from looking at those mutual 12th house/*H/D*/Nodal links is that they were not really *of* this world, either of them. They belonged to the realms of the unconscious, of the imagination, of dreams and prescience... the universal sea to which Shelley returned very literally before he was even thirty.

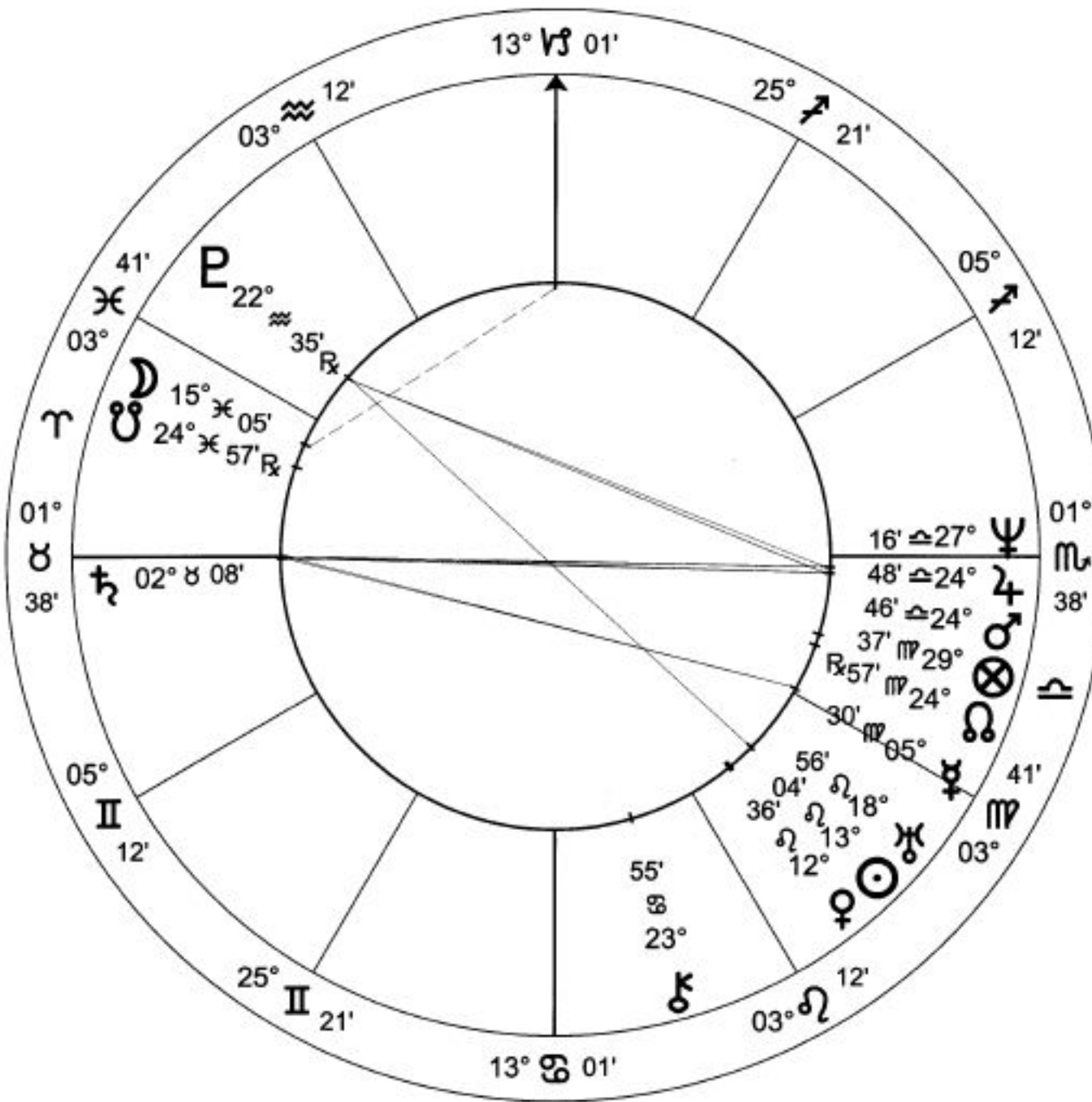


Figure 4: **Percy Bysshe Shelley**
10 PM LMT, 4th August 1792; Horsham, England: 51N04, 0W21²⁰

There was an unworldly unrealism about them both, which can be seen in the frequent periods of chaos in their domestic life and their frequent immersion in tides of debts and pursuing creditors—Shelley's *D/U* midpoint opposite Mary's *♀/♂* midpoint, square her *♂* in *♓* in the 12th house and *♂* in *♈* in the 6th, offers a stark picture of the less rarified and more worldly manifestations of their mutual Nodal links. They were

¹⁸ Preface to *Frankenstein* written by Shelley 14th May 1817.

¹⁹ Decision to publish in July 1838—first volume appeared late January 1839. Source: Sunstein, pp. 340-346.

²⁰ Source: father's and grandfather's statements in his biography.

great writers and visionaries, but pretty hopeless at managing the affairs of ordinary life.

THE STRONG Nodal links between Mary and her daughter tell a poignant story. The child's MC $\propto \Psi$ at $19^{\circ} 42' \nearrow$, $\square \P \propto \P$ at $20^{\circ} \searrow$, plugs in exactly to Mary's nodal axis T-square with the $\P/\P$ midpoint at 20°III . At a human level one can imagine breathing difficulties leading to death (the child was found dead in her cot on the morning of 6th March but may well have died the night before)—and on Mary's side, the shock and horror with which this discovery was greeted.

At a more spiritual level, the two charts' combined pattern of Ψ - $\P$ - $\P$ - $\P$ with her 12th house Ω in II evokes a feeling of darkly visionary capacities of expression being kick started by such a traumatic and early experience of loss.

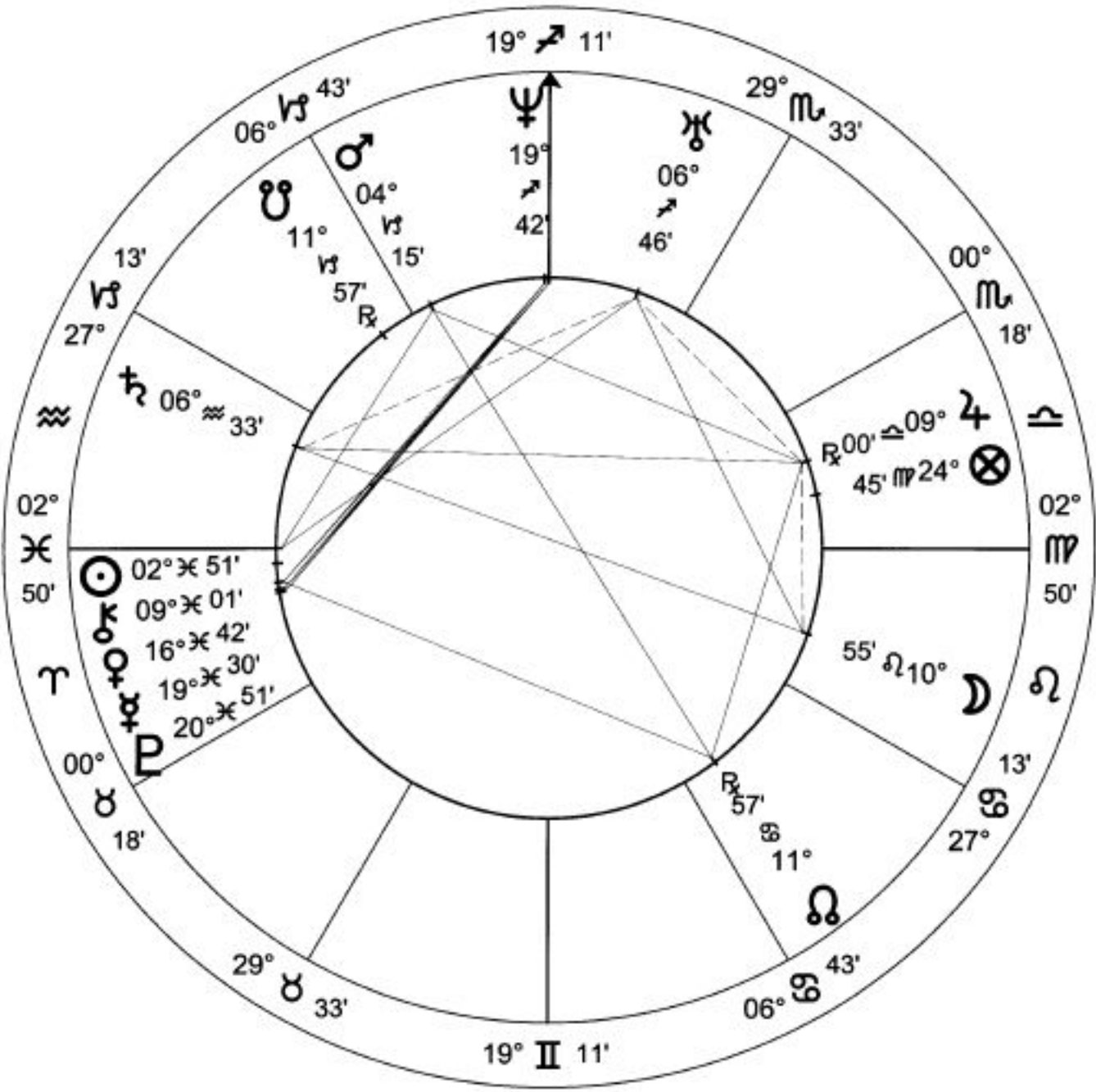


Figure 5: **Baby Mary**
22nd February 1815; London
Time Unknown.²¹

We see also that baby Mary's Ω in II $\square \P \square \P/\P$ picks up her mother's $\P$ rising in II —a powerful set of signifiers for blocked growth, and reinforcement of Mary's primary wound—maternal loss.

²¹ A sunrise chart is used. Her life dawned but never came to fruition. She lived only eleven days.

She lost her mother when she was a baby, and now had given birth to a child who would shortly be lost to her. In this pattern we can also see the motherless, desolate Monster of the book—longing for the expansive potential of human relationship and forever cut off from it, tormented by his own loneliness, grief - and ultimately, anger.

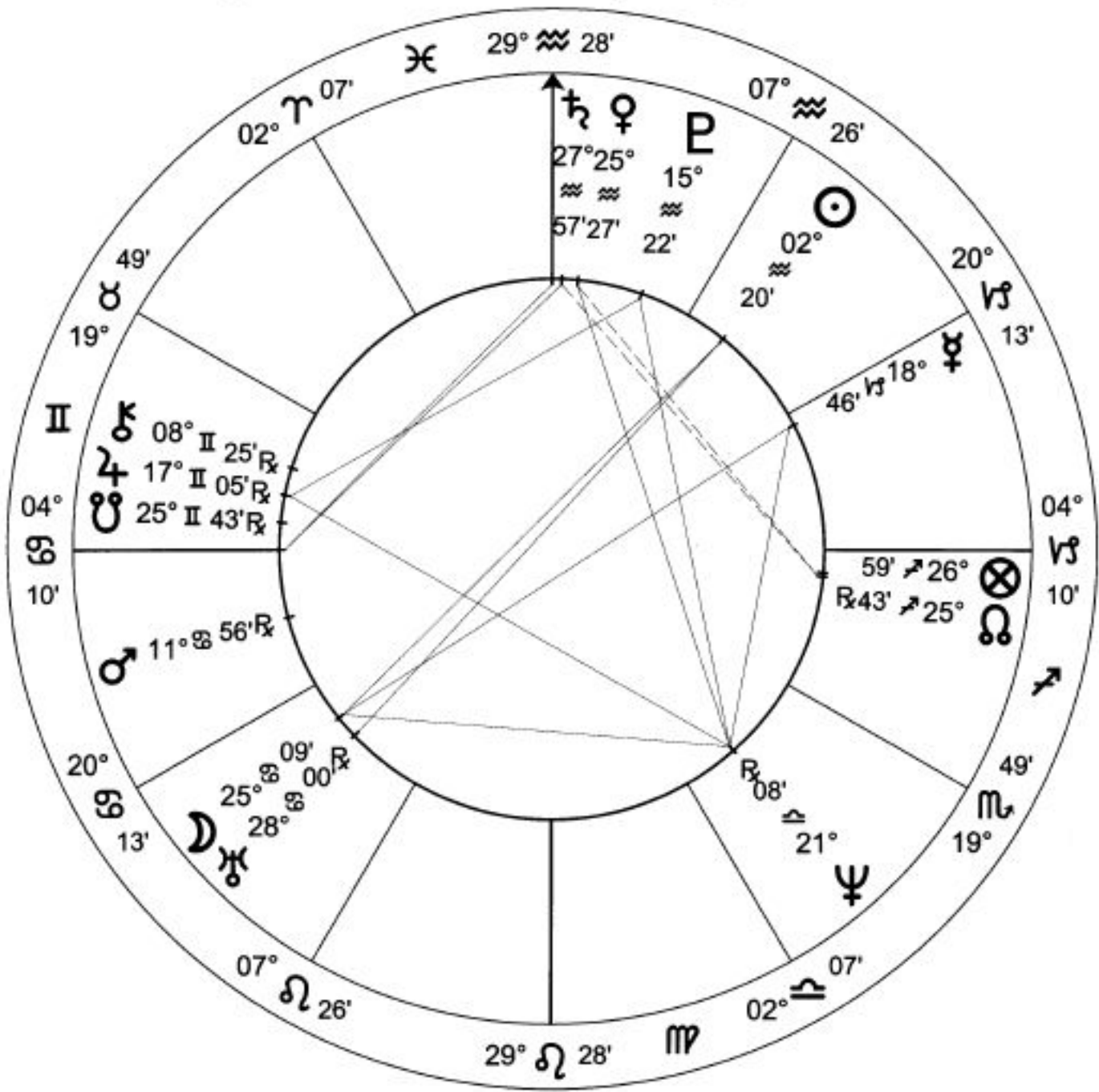


Figure 6:

George Gordon Byron
6th Baron Byron of Rochdale
2 PM LMT, 22nd January 1788; London
Source: family records in British Museum

MARY AND BYRON: The first thing which hits the eye is that Mary and Lord Byron have virtually the same angles, with Byron's ♄ falling with Mary's ♀ on their mutual ♊ Mid-heaven. Surely this was a relationship fated to send powerful images of the shadow side of scientific progress out into the world.

The Nodal axes are linked, with Byron's ♋ in 25° ♄, ☊ at 27°, conjunct Mary's ♌ at 28° ♄ and her ♊ at 20° ♄. Shelley's ♋ is 25° ♄, and Godwin's ♌/♊ midpoint is with his ♄ at 25° ♄. So one has a potent image of all these influences stimulating her restless, questing, writer's spirit to make something on a large and visionary scale come into being—which it did, in 1816 the year of her first ♋ return.



His 12th house ♄/♂ in ♀ falls on her 12th house ♀ ♄; his ♀/♂ in ♀ midpoint in the 9th house trines those links, and quincunxes her ♀/♂ midpoint in ♀ in her 4th house. The picture conjured up by those combined energies is of the relationship with Byron, and the challenge he threw down that fateful night at Villa Diodati, acting as a potent catalyst for the release of her creative potential as a writer. It also suggests the birth of something dark and fated from their connection, which would ripple out into the collective from their time to the future, via the dark underground currents of the 12th house.

AS CAN BE seen already, the bold threads of Mary's pre-natal solar eclipse at 3½° ☾, and pre-natal lunar eclipse at 19° ♄, both weave their way through all these synastries with unmistakable color and impact. The solar picks up Godwin's 12th house-rising ♄ *exactly*, with his ♄-♂-♂ ♄ ♀ T-square. It then draws in Wollstonecraft's Nodal axis, Shelley's MC/IC axis, Byron's Ascendant/Descendant axis and his 1st house-rising ♄. Baby Mary's ♄ is exactly opposite her mother's pre-natal solar eclipse, which further weaves in with the child's Nodal axis-♄-♄ T-square. Because Mary Shelley's pre-natal lunar eclipse is her ♄ degree, one can see its impact running through all the comments made on the links between Mary's Nodal T-square and the key people discussed.

Both those eclipses occurring over two months before her birth are powerfully configured in the structure of Mary's horoscope. Contemplating them, their symbolism in Mary's birth chart, and their strong links with the charts of Godwin, Wollstonecraft, Shelley, Byron and baby Mary, leaves me with a real sense of a life whose purpose was already sketched out before her birth: those key people would be catalysts for the unfolding of her destiny.

MARY FIRST met Shelley on 11th November 1812. She was fifteen. In the spring of 1814 she met him again, and their relationship began to develop. At this point he was unhappily married with small children. On Sunday 26th June, "*in the evening at sunset*",²² at the site of her mother's grave where Mary often went for solace and reflection, they declared their love for each other. Sunstein describes this as "*the evening... that decided her destiny.*"²³

In this chart the elements we can be sure of are ♄ at 21° ♄, falling in Mary's 10th house, opposite her ♀/♂ midpoint at 20° ♀ in the 4th house, creating a grand cross with her natal Nodes at 19° ♀/♄. This gives a strong feel of an event occurring that was heavily fated, destined to alter profoundly her direction in life thereafter. The restless traveling writers'

²² Sunstein, p. 74.

²³ *Ibid.*

life they were to lead is also evoked. $\mathbb{P} = \mathfrak{P}/\mathbb{K}$ carries a strong charge of defiance of the power of the prevailing social order—and the price.

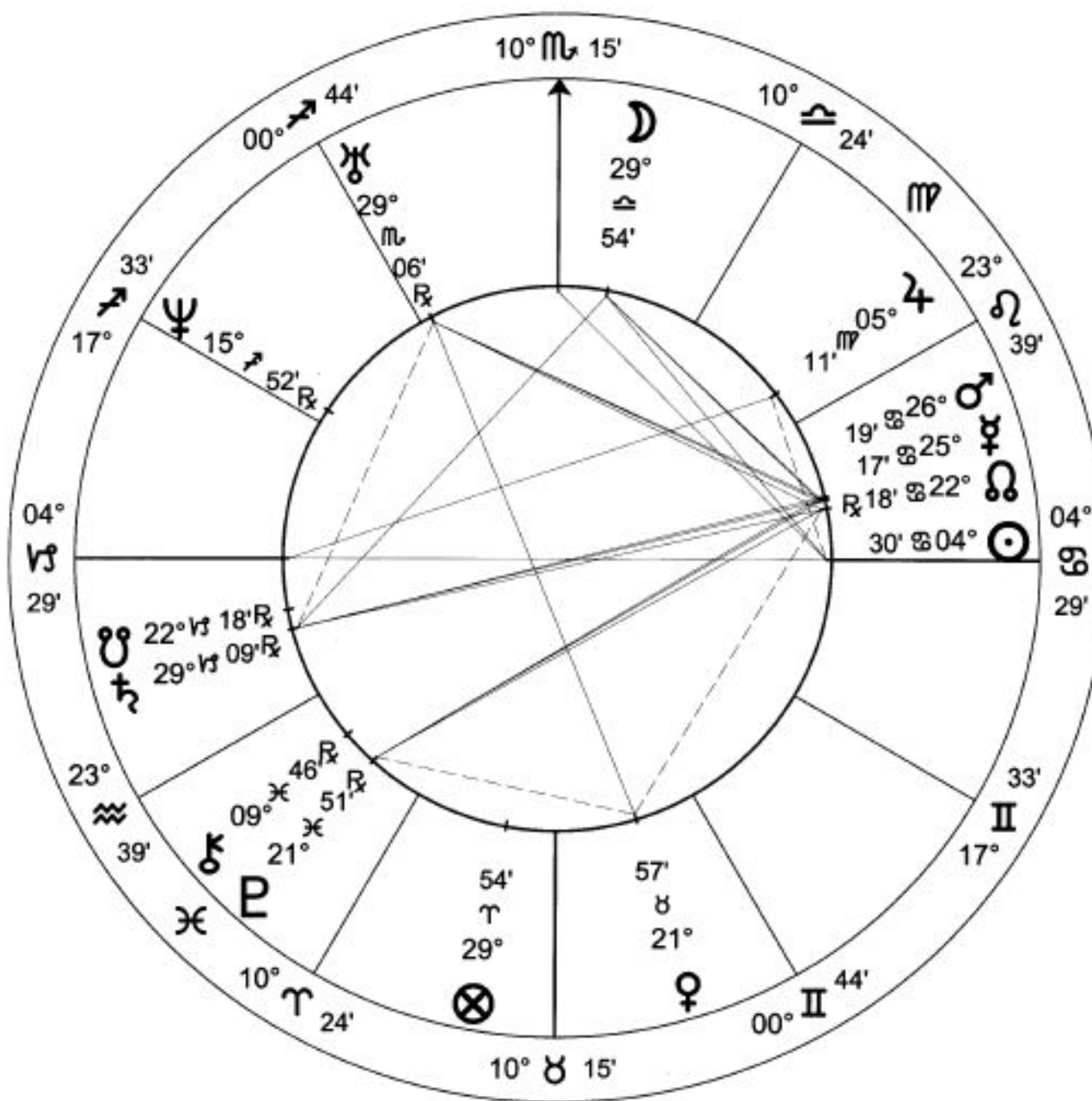


Figure 7:

Declaration of Love

Sunset (8:14 PM LMT) 26th June 1814: London

Ψ in ⚡ falls in Mary's 6th house, ♂ ☿, ☐ ♀ in ♀ in her 10th. I think this shows how her act of commitment to Shelley opens her up as a channel for the archetypal forces of power and imaginative vision which would result in her creation of *Frankenstein*. It poignantly speaks of a longing for worldly, bodily connection with her soul mate.

The elopement chart has an exact time. This venture involved secret flight to the continent, thereby taking an inexorable step in the eyes of the world, especially Godwin's. He was appalled. To make matters worse they took Mary's step-sister Jane (Clare/Claire) Claremont with them. Godwin didn't speak to Mary for nearly three years until the couple married after Shelley's wife's suicide. (But that didn't stop him continually borrowing money off Shelley who continued to provide it!)

In this chart (Figure 8) the $\Psi \square \mathbb{P}$ is once again present, with the $\mathbb{D}$ joining Ψ at $19^\circ \nearrow \sigma$ Mary's Ω in the 6th, $\square \otimes$ again, at $15^\circ \mathcal{H} \sigma \mathbb{P}$ in Mary's 10th. This pattern shows similar issues to the Declaration chart, but $\mathbb{D}/\Psi$ in $\nearrow$ shows action in the world (Mary's 6th house) generated by romantic love and longing, ill-judged and planned and ending in penniless return on 13th September. A flight over water (the English Channel) is also indicated in this chart.

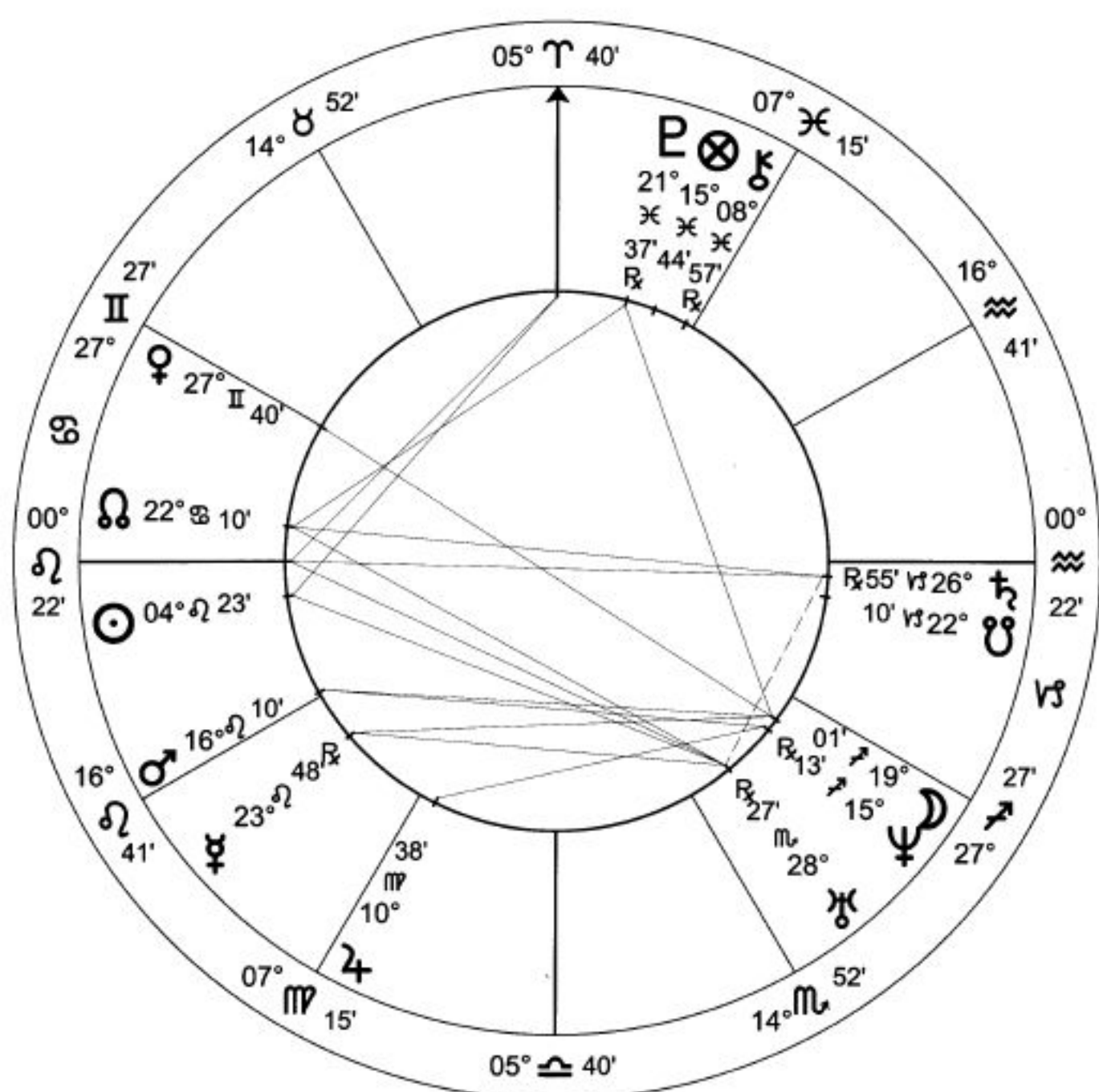


Figure 8:
Elopement
4 AM LMT, 28th July 1814
London²⁴

DREAMING *FRANKENSTEIN* ...and getting it published:
...out of that vampire-laden fog of gruesomeness known
as the English Gothic Romance, only the forbidding acrid
name Frankenstein remains in general usage...²⁵

Muriel Spark’s evocative phrase sums up Mary Shelley’s singular achievement. Perhaps *Frankenstein* alone survives because it is unique. As Muriel Spark puts it:

Frankenstein then was a best-seller; it occurred at the propitious moment when it was necessary for works of fiction to produce, not only repellent if vicarious sensations in the pit of the stomach, but (my emphasis) *speculation in the mind*.²⁶

Mary Shelley went further than anyone else in her *speculation in the mind*. She was writing during the Romantic period in English literature when the *fusion of the ways of thought of two epochs* was generating creative conflict in the artistic, scientific, religious and political life of

²⁴ Source: Sunstein p. 75.

²⁵ Muriel Spark, p. 153.

²⁶ *Ibid.*

the time. Those two epochs were the era of eighteenth century scientific rationalism represented in her childhood by her father, the social philosopher Godwin, and the nineteenth century's Romantic response, represented as a contrasting childhood influence by the Romantic poet Coleridge. She listened to many conversations between these two men as she grew up.

Mingling in Mary were two contrasting streams of thought and feeling, the scientific and the Romantic—an appropriate reflection of her own temperament, which was predominantly earth/air on the one hand, and strongly fire/water on the other—and of the detached scientist Frankenstein and his turbulently emotional creation, the Monster.

This fusion of the ways of thought of two epochs occurred, then, in *Frankenstein*, and gave rise to the first important example of that fictional genre which was later endorsed by HG Wells...²⁷

In *Frankenstein* we can see the Promethean march forward of human scientific endeavor which takes the view, largely, that if it can be done, it should be done—in the name of scientific “progress”. This view doesn't see ceaseless moral and ethical questioning along the way as any part of the scientific project.

Perhaps a corpse could be re-animated; galvanism had given token of such things; perhaps the component parts of a creature might be manufactured, brought together, and endued with vital warmth.²⁸

We can also see throughout the book the horror and revulsion of the Romantic temperament's response to the notion that the fundamental mystery and grandeur of human experience and endeavor could be reduced to a pitifully hubristic attempt at playing God, by cobbling together bits of corpses and attempting to animate the frightful travesty thus engendered.

The backdrop to the night when Mary Shelley dreamed *Frankenstein* was singular. Europe was again being ravaged by terrible storms that had last been seen in the year of her birth in 1797. The cultural cross-currents of scientific rationalism, and the Romantic Movement in art and literature, were creating a turbulent stream in the collective unconscious of the time.

Foreground energies were provided by the alchemy of Byron, Shelley, Mary and their friend Polidori and their reading and discussion, late into the night while storms and rain lashed their villa, of “*volumes of ghost stories translated from the German to the French*”.²⁹ The latest

²⁷ Muriel Spark, p. 159.

²⁸ From the Author's Introduction to the Standard Novels Edition, 1831, p. 4.

²⁹ From “Peter Clarke's Diary”, *Sunday Times*, 30th November 1997.

scientific ideas of the day were also discussed, and taken as far as their imaginations, fuelled by the gruesomeness of their reading material, could stretch.

Within Mary herself, concentrated in a young but passionately, painfully and dramatically lived life, was a deep well of experience, intense feeling, and the drive to express herself. The qualities of the time, and her immediate surroundings, functioned like electrical charges which galvanized her own depths, connected as they were through her 12th house ♏ to the collective pool.

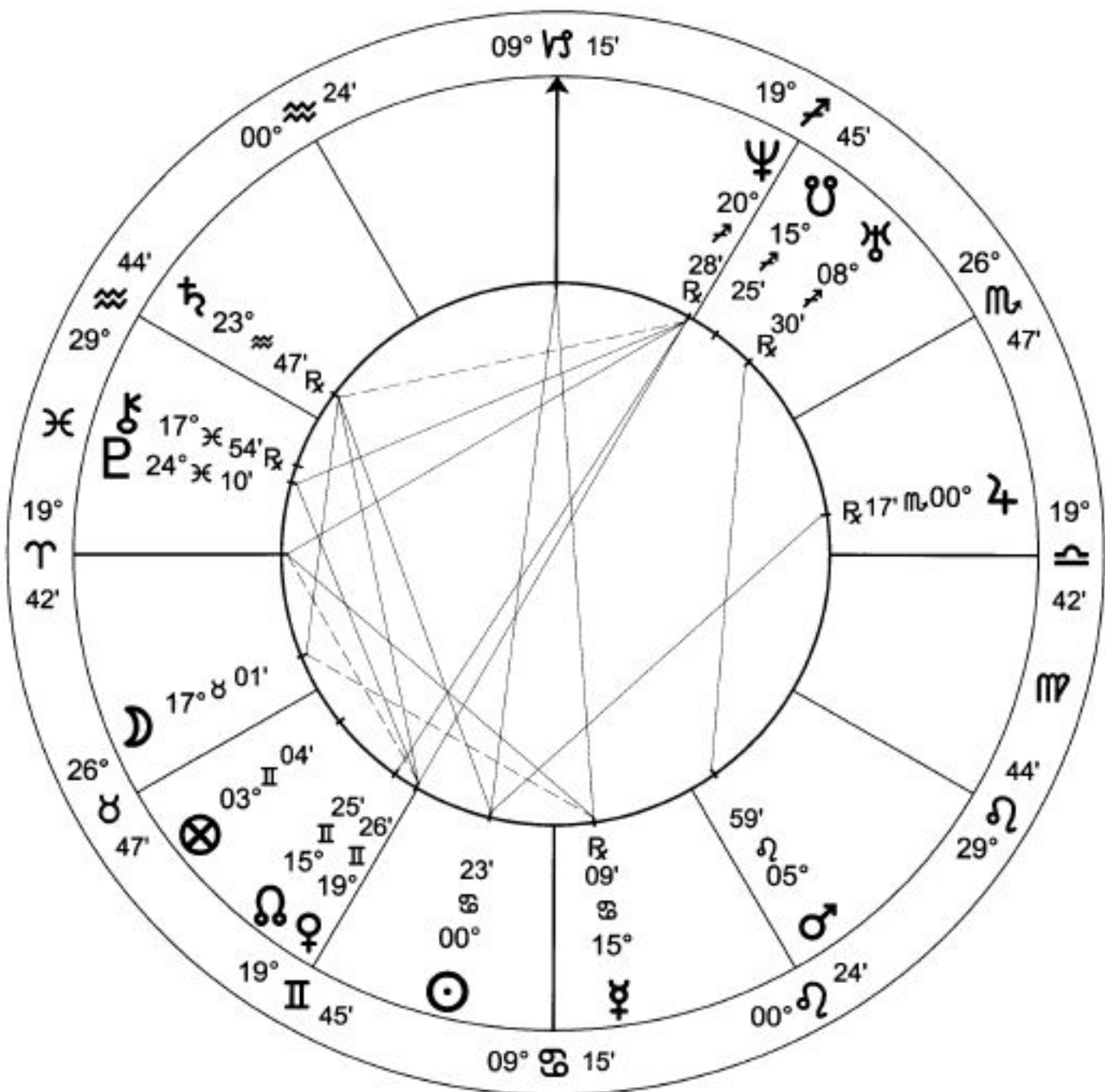


Figure 9: **Dreaming Frankenstein**
00:40 AM LMT, 22nd June 1816
Geneva, Switzerland: 46N12, 6E09³⁰

When I placed my head on my pillow, I did not sleep, nor could I be said to think. My imagination, unbidden, possessed and guided me, gifting the successive images that arose in my mind with a vividness far beyond the usual bounds of reverie. I saw—with shut eyes, but acute mental vision—I saw the pale student of unhallowed arts kneeling beside the thing he had put together. I saw the hideous phantasm of a man stretched out, and then, on the working of some powerful engine, show signs of life... Frightful

³⁰ I decided to set the chart for 00:40 AM local time. This gives her time to get upstairs, get ready for bed, and settle down for sleep. The ‘dream’ came before she went to sleep. The Ascendant here, 19° ♐, is the position of Mary’s natal ♈.

must it be; for supremely frightful would be the effect of any human endeavor to mock the stupendous mechanism of the Creator of the world.³¹

The horoscope for the dream is stunning. Υ rises, conjunct Mary's ♄ , indicating the fame the book would bring her. The axis of Υ - ♋ is supremely appropriate for a tale which concerns the relationship between Frankenstein, the pioneering creator of life, and his creature the Monster, whose alienation from the warmth of relationship with his master and the rest of the world drives him to vengeful murder. The chart signifiers paint this vividly: ♀ , the Descendant ruler, Δ ♁ $\square$ ♁ ♄ . ♀ is at 19° Π in this chart, closely conjunct Mary's Ω .

The 1st house ♊ ♋ , ruling the IC, falls exactly on Mary's 12th house cusp—a potent image of an imaginative response to the currents of the collective unconscious requiring to be given concrete form. Mary's radix ♁ rising falls on the IC of this chart. At the core of the story was her own frustrated longing for maternal nurturing, and the pain of her own motherhood already at nineteen deeply scored by the death of her first child. But she gives form and structure to her pain, using her imaginative gifts, by sending the work out as a lesson and a warning to the collective through an inspired work of literature—the Dream chart's IC ♄ ♀ in ♋ , MC ♋ , ruler ♁ in ♋ in 11th, ♄ ♄ in ♄ in the 9th—all these are highly appropriate signifiers

The Nodal links are striking. The 3rd/9th house cusps of the Dream chart exactly conjunct Mary's Nodal axis. Both Nodal axes are conjunct—and part of a very powerful T-square involving the outer planets: ♄ conjuncts the ♋ in both horoscopes, falling on the 9th cusp of the Dream Chart. ♄ squares ♄ - ♁ which falls in the 12th House of the Dream chart, and Mary Shelley's 10th. The Dream chart's T-square falls on Mary's radix T-square.

The overall “feel” of these potent links is of Mary, through her story, being able to connect to, and give form to, some of the archetypal threads running through the weave of the time in which she lived. With her 12th/6th house Ω falling on the 3rd/9th cusps of the Dream chart, and ♁ - ♄ in the Dream chart's 12th house, square its own 3rd/9th cusps and Mary's Nodes, there is a feeling of prescience, of foresight concerning wounds to come in the human collective, generated by the combination of these two charts.

The Publication chart is also graphic, but in a more cerebral way as befits the nature of the occasion. In the Dream chart ♄ was approaching conjunction with ♄ , which was exactly on Mary's ♋ . In this one, $17\frac{1}{2}^\circ$ ♋ rises, trine Mary's Ω ♄ . ♄ rules the chart, and is placed in ♄ (conjunct MC in ♄) ♄ , ♄ and ♄ , in the 10th house—this stellium is draped round

³¹ From the Author's Introduction to the Standard Novels Edition, 1831, p. 5.

Mary's ♀ ♂ ♀, with the ♀/♂ midpoint exactly conjunct Mary's ♀. The shocking and scary nature of the book, as well as its visionary message, is well conveyed through these signifiers with the addition of the ♂/♀ midpoint exactly ♀/♂—exactly plugging into Mary's Nodal T-square.

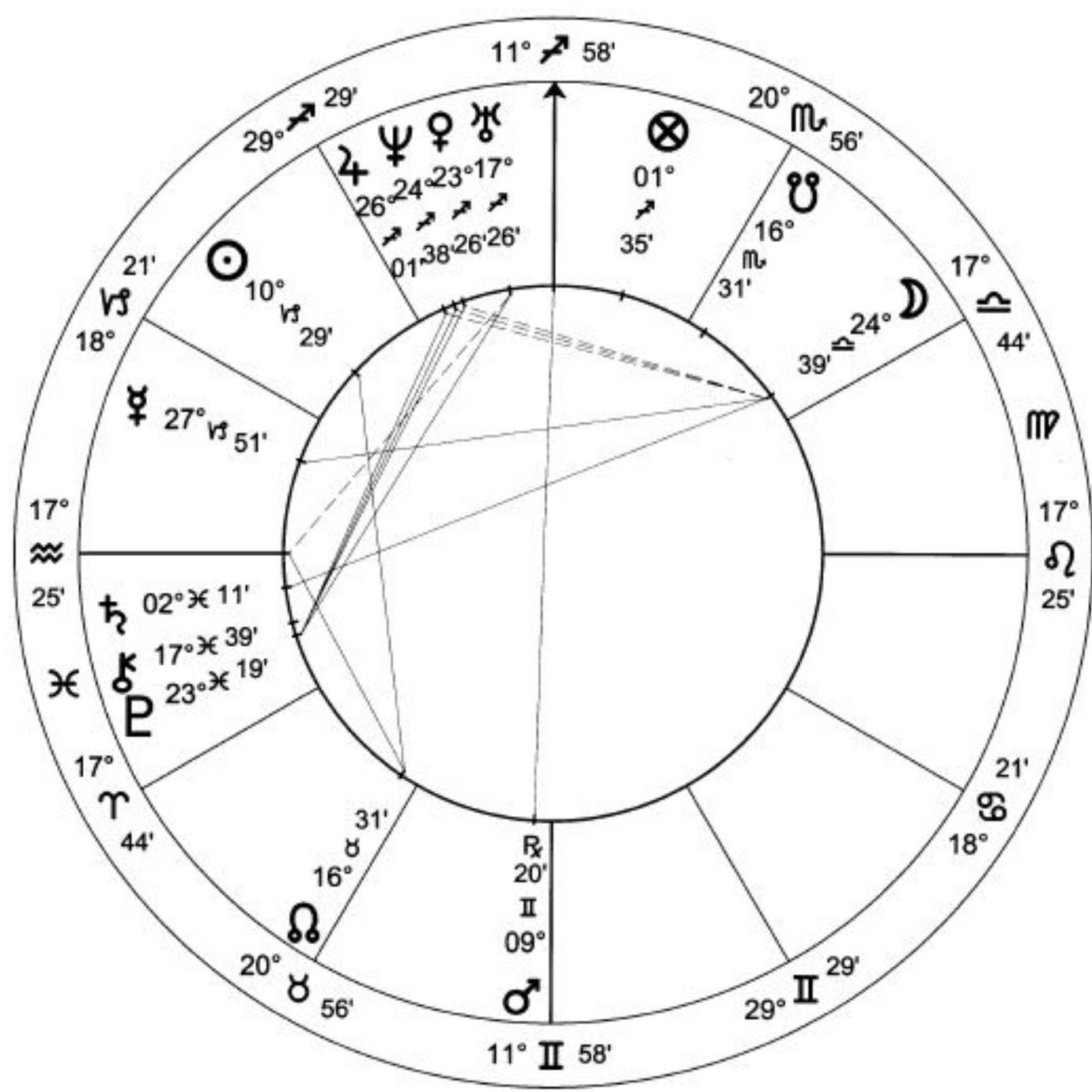


Figure 10: **Publication**
10 AM LMT, 1st January 1818: London
(Hatchard's bookshop, Piccadilly)
Source: *Times*, 1st January 1818, p. 4.

The indications of the book's enormous success are well conveyed in the chart's ♀ ♂ ♀ in the 10th House, conjunct Mary's ♀ ♂ ♀ in her 6th house—as well as Mary's ♀ * the chart's Ascendant.

There is a strongly Promethean tone to the Publication chart, echoing Mary's own. Mary, in publishing *Frankenstein*, breaks through the bounds of convention again, regarding what was thought fit for a woman to do in the time in which she lived. She also challenged expectations of what a youthful person could produce—it was hard to believe that a nineteen year old woman had written this book—and there were many who erroneously believed for some time that it was the work of her husband, Shelley.³²

In the Spring of 1818 the Shelleys and their entourage set off for Europe again. By June, now living in Italy up in the Apennines in Bagni

³² Sunstein, p. 156.

di Lucca, Mary had

...learned from letters and reviews that her novel was a sensation. Along with the expected denunciations for impiety and extravagant wildness, critics lauded the book's 'highly terrific' power...³³

In the Publication chart and its links with Mary Shelley's nativity, one can see the striking foreground dominance of the outer planets in relation to Mary's 12th house Ω in Π . She hadn't just written a book—she had distilled from the collective undercurrents of her time the most powerful dilemma of the age, a Promethean one. Is it right for humankind to strive to transcend the limits of our physical bodies and the cycle of time which demands decay and death as the price of life, *just because science gives us the power to do so?* *Frankenstein's* profound impact on public consciousness, from its own time and down the generations that followed right up until the present day, can be seen especially in the many and varied cinematographic versions of the book from the first American film adaptation of 1910 onwards. As Emily Sunstein puts it:

In 1931 Boris Karloff became the monster for millions, and the rest is history.³⁴



³³ Sunstein, p. 155.

³⁴ Sunstein, p. 398.

EENTER DOLLY:
Dr Frankenstein wore a wool sweater and a baggy parka... Dr Ian Wilmut, the first man to conceive fully formed life from adult body parts since Mary Shelley's fictional mad scientist. Wilmut may not look the part of Frankenstein, or God the Father—but *he played it.*"(my emphasis).

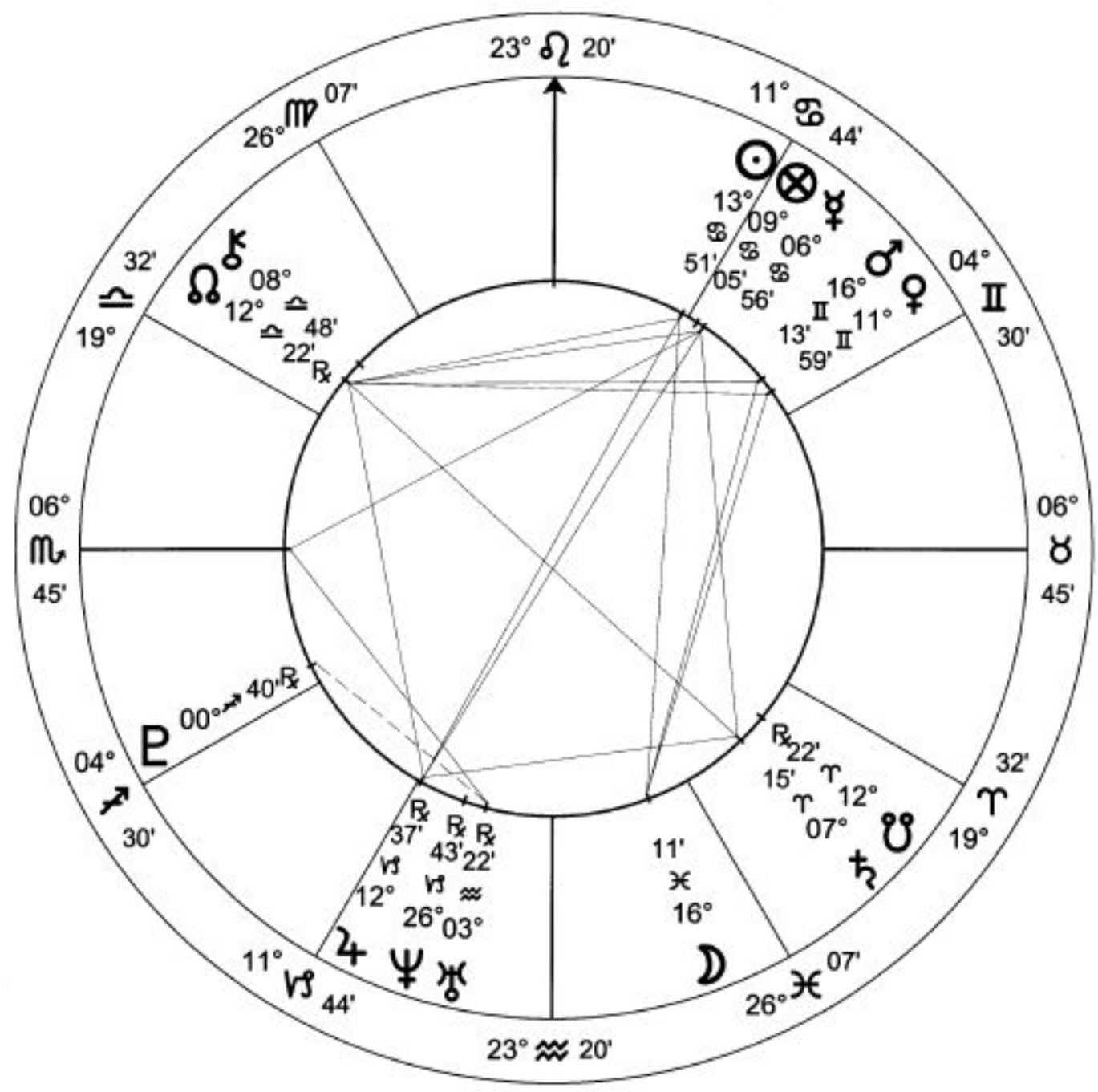


Figure 11: **Dolly, the cloned sheep**
4 PM BST, 5th July 1996
Rosslyn Institute, near Edinburgh, Scotland: 55N57, 3W13³⁵

The reason for the continuing potency of the book's effect is that the dilemma Mary Shelley so graphically portrayed is with us still, and still unresolved, as the above quotation shows. It is absolutely contemporary.

On 26th February 1997, shortly after the ♄ ♂ ♄ and its attendant 5° pattern linking ♄, ♂, ♄, ♄ and ♄ in a unique planetary alignment on 15th-16th February 1997, Dolly the Sheep was presented to the world.

Andrew Marr, editor of *The Independent*, wrote on his paper's front page:

In the past few days, we have lived through a change in the human condition as momentous as the Copernican revolution or the splitting of the atom"³⁶

³⁵ Source: Caroline Gerard
³⁶ *The Independent*, Wednesday 26th February 1997.

This dramatic statement introduced the news that a team of Scottish scientists had successfully produced a sheep cloned from one cell of her genetically identical mother's udder. President Clinton was so concerned by this development that he asked a national ethics board to review the moral implications, and present their report within ninety days.

For weeks afterwards, the papers were full of intense debate. As the *New Scientist* put it on 1st March 1997, under the headline *One giant leap into the unknown*:

"Extraordinary", "stupendous", "mind-boggling" and "frightening" were the words on everyone's lips. They said it couldn't happen before 2050, but now that an adult sheep has been cloned, there seems to be no technical reason why we should not do the same with people..."

President Clinton's ethics committee reported back on 7th June 1997. The conclusion was that cloning of human beings is morally wrong, and should be banned.

When I first read about how Dolly the sheep had been cloned, that an electrical charge was run through the genetically altered egg to vitiate the cloning process, I recall being rooted to my chair, feeling chilled, as a vivid cinema image of Frankenstein's Monster vitiated by the lightning bolt came to me. What had Mary Shelley foreseen? Her biography shows clearly that she had a streak of prescience with regard to upcoming events in her personal life. The Ω position in Π in the 12th, $\square$ $\mathbb{K}$, $\ast$ $\mathcal{U}$, suggests sensitivity to collective events as yet unformed.

In my monthly Study Group which I run for ongoing students as a forum to present charts, I sometimes introduce world event charts, and certainly could not resist producing Scotland's chart in March 1997. Scotland's Ascendant is $6\frac{1}{2}^\circ$ Ω , and there is a 7° $\top$ MC—so it is strongly "plugged in" to the unique planetary line-up just mentioned. During the tutorial I told the students about my powerful "flash" of Mary Shelley/*Frankenstein* when reading about how Dolly had been created. Having just that week obtained Dolly's chart, I had the idea of putting Mary Shelley's chart positions round the acetate of Dolly's chart, in red pen. I put this very hurried piece of work up on the overhead projector. I won't forget the quality of the silence which fell in the room as the students looked at the synastry.

One could write a whole case study on this synastry alone. But the first comments the students made *were on the powerful Nodal links*.

Once again there is a significant tie-up with Mary's Nodal T-square: Dolly's $\text{♀} \propto \text{♂}$ in Π in the 8th, square her $\mathbb{H}$ $\mathcal{D}$ in the 5th, falls on Mary's 12th house Ω , with the $\mathcal{D}$ placed in her 10th house. Dolly's square provides a striking image of the artificial separation of the growth and incarnation

process shown by the $\mathcal{D}$, life's container, from the sexual meeting of male and female shown by the 8th house $\mathcal{Q} \propto \mathcal{M}$. Mary's 1st house rising $\mathcal{H}$ in $\mathcal{G}$ squares Dolly's $\mathcal{H}/\mathcal{Q} \mathcal{K}/\mathcal{O}/\mathcal{X}/\mathcal{F} \propto \mathcal{V}$ Grand Cross.

These cross link-ups are potent and poignant. They carry all the personal and collective themes I have been presenting throughout this case study. There is even an un-mothered sheep—not carried in a womb, birthed and gently nudged onto her feet and into her life by her own mother—but an artificial creation from, of all parts of the maternal body, the udder.

There are many other Nodal links, too numerous to chart them all in detail. Here are a few examples : Percy Shelley and Dolly have the same $\mathcal{D}$ to 1° of exactitude, squaring Mary's $\mathcal{Q}$. Dolly's Nodal Grand Cross "plugs in" to the Ascendant of the Dream chart. Dolly's Ascendant axis runs through the Publication chart's Nodal axis—the $\mathcal{O}$ of the Publication chart links closely with Dolly's Nodal grand cross, the two $\mathcal{O}$ s in fact oppose each other. Furthermore, the $\mathcal{D}-\mathcal{Q} \square \mathcal{M}$ in Dolly's chart picks up the MC and attendant $\mathcal{K}-\mathcal{M}-\mathcal{K}$ T-square in the Publication chart.

Very significantly too, in terms of the resonance over time, is the fact that Dolly's $0^\circ \mathcal{M} \mathcal{E}$ is in waning square to Mary Shelley's $\mathcal{E}$, which is at $29^\circ \approx$ conjunct her MC at $27^\circ \approx$ —Dolly's IC is $23^\circ \approx$. It is very apt that Dolly should appear under this waning square, as a potent symbol of a major concrete outworking of the revolutionary social, political and scientific ideas current under the $\mathcal{K} \propto \mathcal{E}$ immediately preceding Mary's birth.³⁷ Furthermore, when Dolly was announced to the world, $\mathcal{K}$ was making its first sextile from the $\mathcal{K} \propto \mathcal{E}$ of the 1960s.

³⁷ The $\mathcal{V}-\mathcal{K}$ year of 1997 is probably the most overtly Promethean year humanity has lived through, the central event of a Promethean nature being the first ever cloning of a mammal, making the cloning of human beings a frightening but not unlikely next step. (See my own study *From erotic bathing to star gazing—the Jupiter Uranus Year* for a presentation of some of the collective and individual effects of this conjunction).

At the point of exact conjunction in February 1997, $\mathcal{V}$ disposed the current position of $\mathcal{E}$ in $\mathcal{M}$, and $\mathcal{K}$ disposed Mary Shelley's $\mathcal{E}$; the conjunction and its attendant pattern *plugged in* exactly to Mary Shelley's ninth house cusp at $5^\circ \approx$. It is an interesting piece of synchronicity that 1997, the conjunction year, was the bicentenary of her birth, and there was something of a Mary Shelley revival. There was an exhibition in Rome in August, her birth month (*The Times*, 28th August 1997, p.15). The National Portrait Gallery mounted a major exhibition on Mary Shelley and her mother's lives and work, "*Hyenas in Petticoats*", in London over the winter, and on 10th November a front page headline in *The Times* reported that a children's story by Mary Shelley, lost for 170 years, had just turned up in a trunk in a villa in Italy. As already mentioned, Mary, after Mary Shelley, was the *first* choice of name for the famous sheep, which was in the end named after Dolly Parton.

Once again, the pre-natal eclipses are stunning foreground images in all the event charts. The links between the 19° ♄ pre-natal lunar eclipse and Mary's chart have already been covered by the discussion of the Nodal links between Mary's chart and key events, since 19° ♄ is her ♀ degree.

3½° ☊, the pre-natal solar eclipse, is conjunct the ☉ in the 6th house of the Declaration chart, opposite the ♀/♂ midpoint in the 12th House. This strongly resonates with the nature of the event: the declaration in the world of a longing for profound union of body and spirit. It falls in the 12th house of the elopement chart—very apt for a clandestine event under cover of darkness!—closely square the ☊ MC. The Dream chart finds it in the 3rd house, ☉ and probably the IC. In the Publication chart it falls most appropriately in the 5th house, opposite an 11th house ☉ and ☉/♄ midpoint, square the ♀/♂ midpoint in the 1st house. This offers a clear picture of a challenging piece of writing, destined to bring fame to its creator, being offered up to the wider community from a visionary creative source.

I find the links between the pre-natal solar eclipse and Dolly's chart particularly striking, plugging in as it does to Dolly's ♀ ☉ ⊗ ☉, completing a grand cross with the ♀, ☉, ☊ and ☋.

MARY SHELLEY dreamed *Frankenstein* on 22nd June 1816. The transiting ♀ had recently returned to its natal position at 19° ♀, and was still retrograding through the 12th House. On 27th May 1816 there was a solar eclipse that fell in Mary's 12th house, at 5½° ♀, triggering her ☉/♂, ♀/♂, ♀/MC and ♀/☊ midpoints. On 10th June there was a total lunar eclipse—on the ♀, at 19° ♄, the position of her pre-natal lunar eclipse. The new moon on 25th June, three days after the dream, fell on 3° 47' ☊—her precise pre-natal solar eclipse degree, just out of the 18° orb limit required to produce an eclipse.

The eclipse season within which *Frankenstein* was published on 1st January 1818 saw the ♀ retrograding through the middle degrees of ♄. The total solar eclipse of 9th November 1817 fell on 16° 20' ♄, almost exactly conjunct Mary Shelley's 12th house cusp, triggering her ♀/♂ midpoint in the 3rd House, and ♀/☊ midpoint in the 6th. Furthermore, this eclipse degree appears as the *exact* ♀ degree in the Publication chart, the Nodes making a grand cross with its Ascendant/Descendant axis at 17° ♀/♂. This axis falls in Mary's 9th/3rd house, sextile her ☋ and ☊/♄ her Nodal axis—quite a symbolic recipe for literary success within an innovative field of work!

The lunar eclipse of 23rd November at 1° 13' ♀ closely echoed the pre-Dream solar eclipse at 5½° ♀, and fell again in Mary's 12th house, squaring her powerful ☊/MC/♂ line-up, conjunct her ☉/☊ and ☉/MC midpoints. The eclipse degree becomes the ⊗ degree in the 10th house of the Publication chart, opposite a 3rd house ☉ in ♀, square a 1st house ☊ in ☊.

DOLLY WAS presented to the world on 26th February 1997. The transiting Ω was at $28^{\circ} 44'$ III , *exactly* conjunct Mary Shelley's Ω -ruler, ♀ , and square her D at 28° X . The total solar eclipse at $18\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ H on 9th March fell in her 10th house, square the natal Nodal axis, and Mary's pre-natal lunar eclipse at 19° X . The following lunar eclipse on 24th March at $3\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ = fell on her ♀ ♂ at $3\frac{1}{2}$ - $5\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ = , square her Ascendant at $2\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ ☾ , $\square$ her pre-natal solar eclipse at $3\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ ☾ .

In the autumn, as the controversy raised by Dolly raged on, the total solar eclipse of 1st September 1997 at $9\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ III fell on Mary's ☉ ♄ . The following lunar eclipse on 16th September at 24° H squared once again Mary Shelley's Nodal axis/pre-natal lunar eclipse degrees. The transiting Nodal axis by then was exactly forming a grand cross with Mary's natal Nodes.

The cloning/genetic engineering debate continued. The following spring was notable for an American doctor announcing that he was going to go ahead with attempting to clone a human being, despite the findings of President Clinton's ethics committee the previous June. Suspicions were being voiced in the press that the race towards cloning the first human was probably on, being conducted behind the scenes. The feeling now is that human cloning is just a matter of time.

And the eclipses? The total solar eclipse of 26th February 1998 at 8° H opposed Mary's ☉ ♄ from the 10th house. The following lunar eclipse on 13th March at $22\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ III once again made a grand cross with her natal Nodes. The prevailing pattern in the heavens that spring involved ☽ - Ω - ☿ in the first decanate of the mutables, picking out Mary Shelley's ♂ ♄ ☉ ♄ from 1° to 12° III .

When I made all these correspondences, spanning nearly 200 years of time, I felt awestruck. My overwhelming impression, once again, was of a life moving inexorably towards its destiny, with the Nodes, and their agents the eclipses, providing both the route maps and the galvanizing energy. The Nodal and eclipse patterns of Mary Shelley's natal horoscope stand out as symbolic images of the threads weaving the individual herself, the modern myth she created, and this time and place when the myth is powerfully potent in collective consciousness, into the tapestry of history.



I HAD OCCASION recently to look out the horoscope of the 20th century, set for London. This is an extraordinary horoscope. Images leap out: of the century's restless hunger for challenging the frontiers of knowledge at every level, of its turbulence, violence and revolutionary spirit, of the breakdown of conventional and traditional life patterns—and the price paid for all that change.

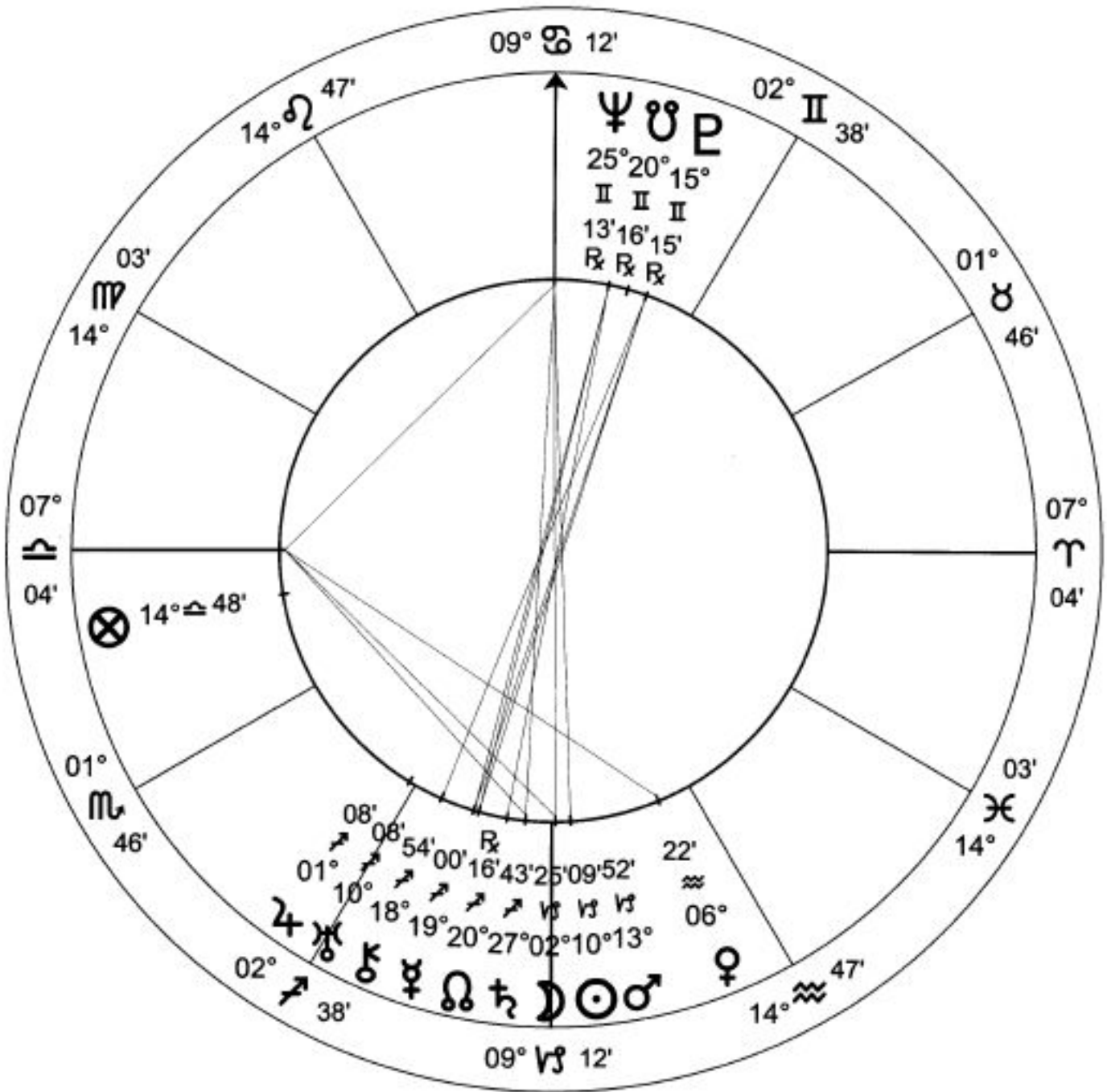


Figure 12: **Beginning of the 20th Century**
00:00 AM GMT, 1st January 1900; London³⁸

I looked at the chart—and looked again. There was something about it which strongly reminded me of another chart. Intuitively I went for Mary Shelley's—and was riveted.

Mary's Nodal axis is exactly conjunct the 20th century one, her 12th house ♏ in ♐ falling on the century's ♏. Both land on the century's ♄ ∅ ♀ midpoint, in the 9th house, exactly square Mary's ♄/♁ and ♀/♁ midpoints. Her ♄ ♁, widely conjunct the ♏, falls on the century's ♄ almost to the minute. Both are conjunct the Galactic Centre. Her ♀/♁ midpoint falls in the 11th house of the century's chart, exactly square its ♁ in ♄ in the 3rd house. The century's exact ♄ ∅ ♀ in the 3rd house is within a degree of Mary's ♏.

Other links are equally stunning. Mary's ♄ rising in ♏ falls within 20' of the century's Midheaven, its ♀ ∅ ♄ on the IC falling opposite Mary's ♄. The century's ♄ on the ♏ IC is exactly conjunct Mary's Descendant.

³⁸ Set for London as the capital of the British Empire, the dominant world force in 1900.

The pain and alienation of people's increasing separation this century from ties of kin, tradition and nation, and the ancient rhythms of Nature itself, in the wake of fast, unprecedented, technology-led global change, and Mary's prescient capacity to evoke this, I think lie at the heart of the astounding synastry between the two charts.

This has been a century like no other. There have been huge leaps forward in improvements in standard of living and vastly expanded ranges of potential through which those lucky enough to live in the "developed" world can experience life. There is also a heavy price to be paid and, increasingly, we are now paying it. In her portrayal of the questing, brilliant, restless, hubristic Dr Frankenstein, prepared to take on the role of Creator in his ruthless pursuit of scientific progress unfettered by moral concerns or even self-doubt, and in her portrayal of the intelligent, sensitive, lonely, alienated and ultimately destructive Monster, she is offering through her famous novel a warning for the future—and presenting us with an essential duality of the century in which we live.

With extraordinary clairvoyance and integrity Mary Shelley recognized that what her father trusted as the promise of mankind was also its gravest threat. It is perhaps her greatest and most characteristic accomplishment in *Frankenstein* that the issue remains unresolved and unresolvable.³⁹



³⁹ Sunstein, p. 132.



Evangeline Adams' Astrological Techniques¹

KAREN CHRISTINO

EVANGELINE ADAMS promoted herself so well in the first decades of the 20th century that she and astrology became extraordinarily well known in the United States. She claimed to be an expert and to have made incredible predictions, but she only described her most basic astrological techniques in her books. How can we learn more about how she really worked?

Evangeline's first astrology teacher was Dr. J. Heber Smith, a homeopathic physician and a professor at Boston University's medical school. If we examine his techniques, we might gain some insight into how Evangeline, herself, worked. Adams tells us in *Astrology, Your Place in the Sun* that,

A remark made by the author's preceptor, Dr. J. Heber Smith, when teaching her how to erect a figure, made a deep impression. This was to the effect that the type of mind that "fussed" over the minutes and seconds in drawing up a chart never made a good astrological diagnostician, such minds being too literal and their spiritual perception too limited. As an example, he stated that the charts drawn by Professor Lister (his contemporary, and whom he considered the wisest Astrologer in his period), "looked as if a hen had walked over the paper." Dr. Smith's opinion has been borne out by the author in her own experience with pupils. Raphael, under whose supervision the ephemerides upon which all Astrologers are dependent are prepared, in drawing his charts in his daily work, does not consider it necessary to put in

¹ Excerpted from *What Evangeline Adams Knew* by Karen Christino (Stella Mira Books, PO Box 3095, Brooklyn Heights, NY 11202). Edited by the author for *Considerations*.

anything but the degrees of the planets; which still further goes to prove that the more one knows of the truths of the science, the more one realizes that he is dealing with the Cosmos and that unless the Astrologer has background, years of experience and much worldly wisdom, he is in danger of depending too much on mathematics and too little on the things that count. (*Sun* pp. 308-309)

Smith had the ☉ and ♀ in the sign of ♈, which prefer the broad strokes to minutiae (Smith was born on December 5, 1842 according to Boston University faculty archives). With ♂ in ♏, he understood the archetypal, especially in astrology. Evangeline couldn't agree more: with her own horoscope emphasis on ♏, along with ♄ in ♈, she happily concurred with her teacher's point of view. In *The Bowl of Heaven* Adams says that for client consultations,

I have learned to allow myself only three to five minutes out of the precious half hour for making the intricate mathematical calculations necessary to determine the position of the planets in the chart. (p. 16)

It's important to bear in mind that Adams was therefore never a technician *per se*: specificity and exactitude were not her forte. She was not rigorously mathematical. While prominent astrologers at the turn of the century like Dr. Luke D. Broughton and W.H. Chaney utilized Primary Directions, these would not have been in Evangeline's toolkit. Given that her typical readings lasted only a half hour, she certainly didn't have time for involved calculations in her clients' charts. She concentrated, instead, on broad principles. Thus, for example, we find her discussing astrological cycles rather than rectification.

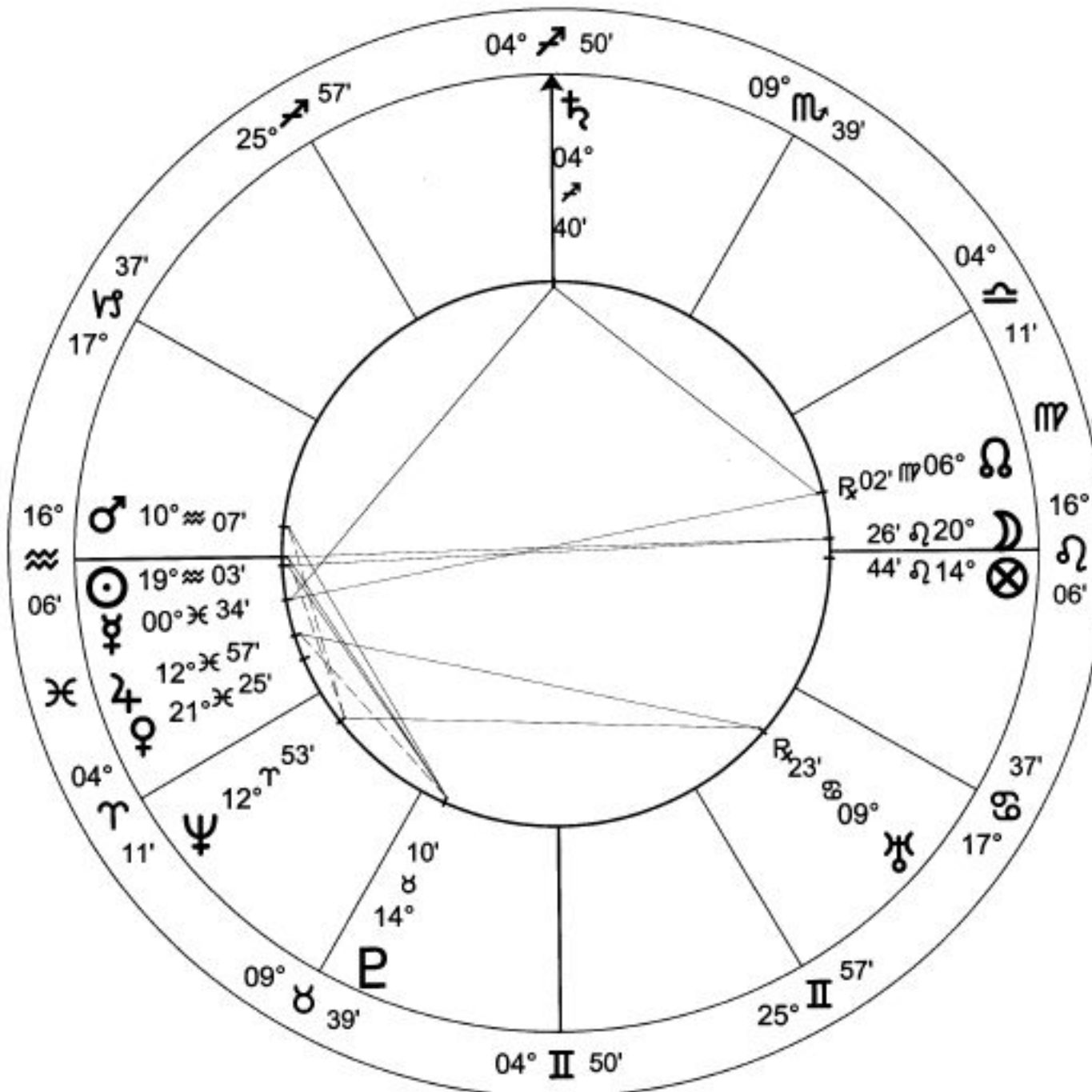
Adams never forgot her first astrological reading with Dr. Smith:

The first time I went to see the great diagnostician, he asked me the date and hour and place of my birth – questions which I have since asked so many thousands of times! – and made out the horoscope chart showing the position of the stars when I was born. Then he amazed me by saying: “Didn't you break your leg when you were nine years old?” (*Bowl* p. 28)

Evangeline remembered the incident well, and confirmed that it happened as she was about to turn nine. How did Dr. Smith come up with this salient fact? He must have used rough Solar Arcs to quickly determine some significant life events. If we look at the chart Dr. Smith drew up for Evangeline, we can see that ♄ is near the Ascendant and is 9° from the ☉. Since Smith was a medical man, an accident (♄) related to the leg (♏) would have been what leapt to his mind.

Dr. Smith told me many things that seemed remarkable to me then, but which now – with my own experience of as-

trology's range and infallibility – are nothing more than routine. He said that I would not marry the man to whom I was then engaged. And I didn't. He said that a much richer man would propose to me during the following year. And he did. He told me that I would never have another planetary aspect in my whole life that would be apt to bring a proposal from a millionaire. And I haven't! (*Bowl* p. 311)



Evangeline Adams

February 8, 1868; 7:00 a.m.

Jersey City, NJ: 40N44, 74W04

Source: Date from *A Genealogical History of Henry Adams* (1898),
time from *The Bowl of Heaven* citing Evangeline's mother.

In remarking on Evangeline's potential marriage, Dr. Smith was using a very old technique that goes back to Ptolemy. Dr. Luke D. Broughton had reiterated it in his book, *Elements of Astrology*. Like Dr. Smith, Dr. Broughton was another homeopathic physician, as were his father and grandfather before him; they all practiced astrology as well. Broughton's father had even taught Dr. Smith's colleague Professor Lister astrology.

Dr. Broughton came to Philadelphia from Leeds in the late 1850's, and along with his brothers began publishing astrological journals beginning in the early 1860's. Dr. Smith attended Hahnemann Medical College in Philadelphia, graduating as valedictorian of his class in 1866—the year that Dr. Broughton relocated to New York City. So their paths could easily have crossed, and it seems likely that Broughton or his brothers were an influence on Smith; Evangeline's work certainly reflects his influence as well.

Dr. Broughton put an emphasis on the regularity of planetary cycles, whose repetitions were determined by natural laws. He felt that natural laws thus governed the influence of astrology, too. Like scientists, he implied that the tenets of Christianity and astrology were not compatible. Broughton was methodical in his work, and gave definite rules for delineating the horoscope. What he was striving for was an obvious, workable method that could be successfully replicated by the student. Here is his advice on interpreting the natal potential for marriage:

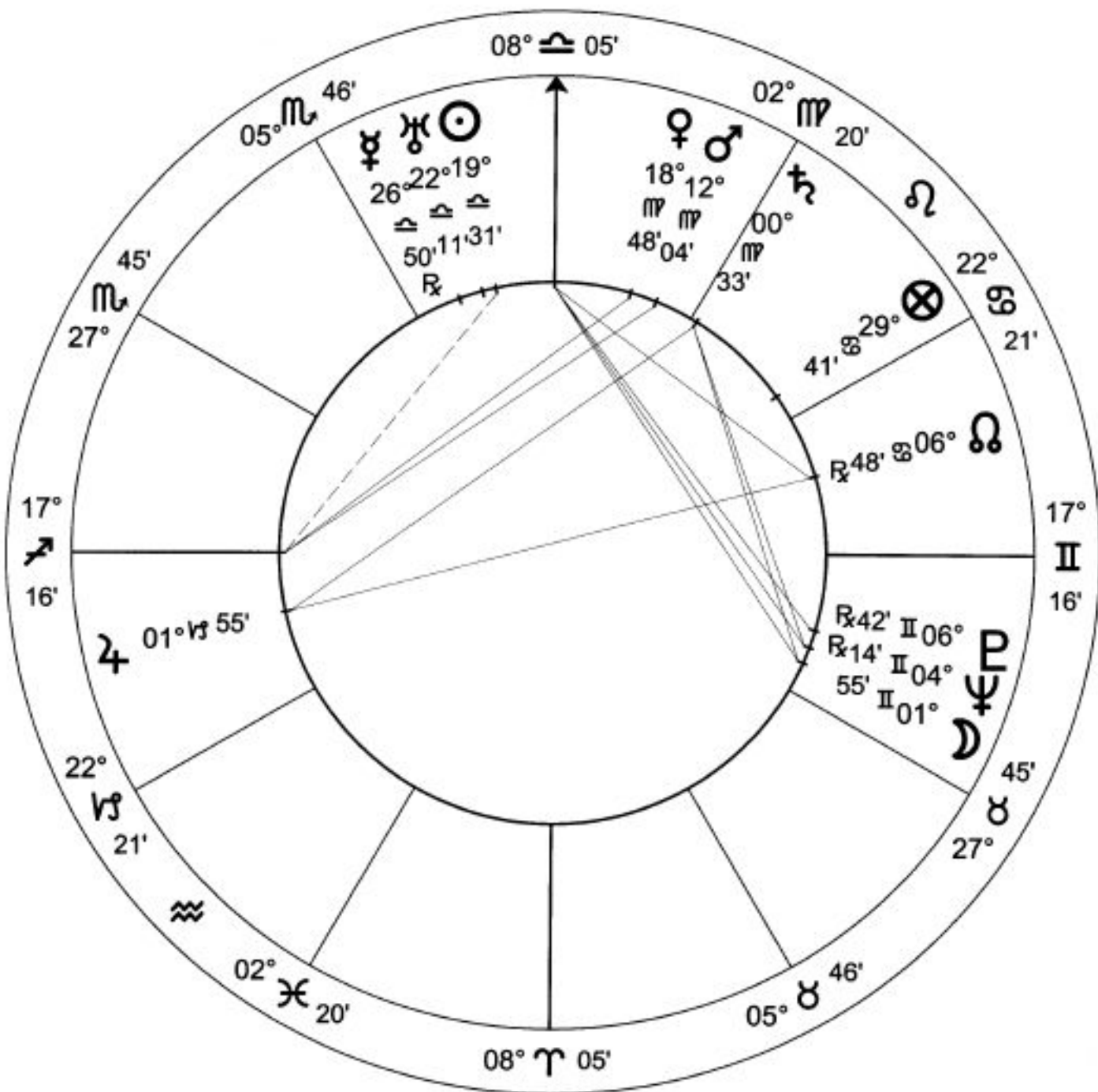
In all female horoscopes, we first see what aspect and what planet the Sun first applies to, and whether that aspect is a fortunate aspect, and that planet a fortunate planet. If the Sun first makes an evil aspect of an evil planet, say to a conjunction, square or opposition, of either Saturn or Mars, then that female, if she marries, will have an unhappy married life, especially if there are evil planets in the seventh house (the house of marriage), or evil planets aspecting the seventh house, or if the lord of the seventh house is an evil planet, and is any way afflicted by evil aspects, especially by being in square or opposition to Saturn or Mars.

Those aspects in a female's nativity which the Sun makes either good or evil, to either Neptune, Uranus or the Moon are not to be noticed, as she never or hardly ever marries the person described by those planets; she will probably keep company with persons described by those planets; and if the Sun makes evil aspects to them, either conjunction, square, or opposition, the native may meet much unhappiness, if not disgrace by the persons described by those planets. (Broughton pp. 164-165)

Dr. Smith was simply utilizing Dr. Broughton's rule when he analyzed Evangeline's horoscope. In the chart he drew up, we see that the ☉'s next aspect is an opposition to the ♃; the ☉ ☌ ♃ even straddles the Ascendant-Descendant axis, and the ☉ rules the 7th house as well. So Evangeline's first engagement would not work out: she says this was correct. Smith, of course, was on extraordinarily solid astrological ground: Ptolemy, himself, had long before proposed exactly the same mode of analysis in Chapter V of his *Tetrabiblos*:

If, however, the relative positions of the luminaries be in signs inconjunct, or in opposition, or in quartile, the cohabitation will be speedily dissolved upon slight causes, and the total separation of the parties will ensue. (Ashmand, p. 125)

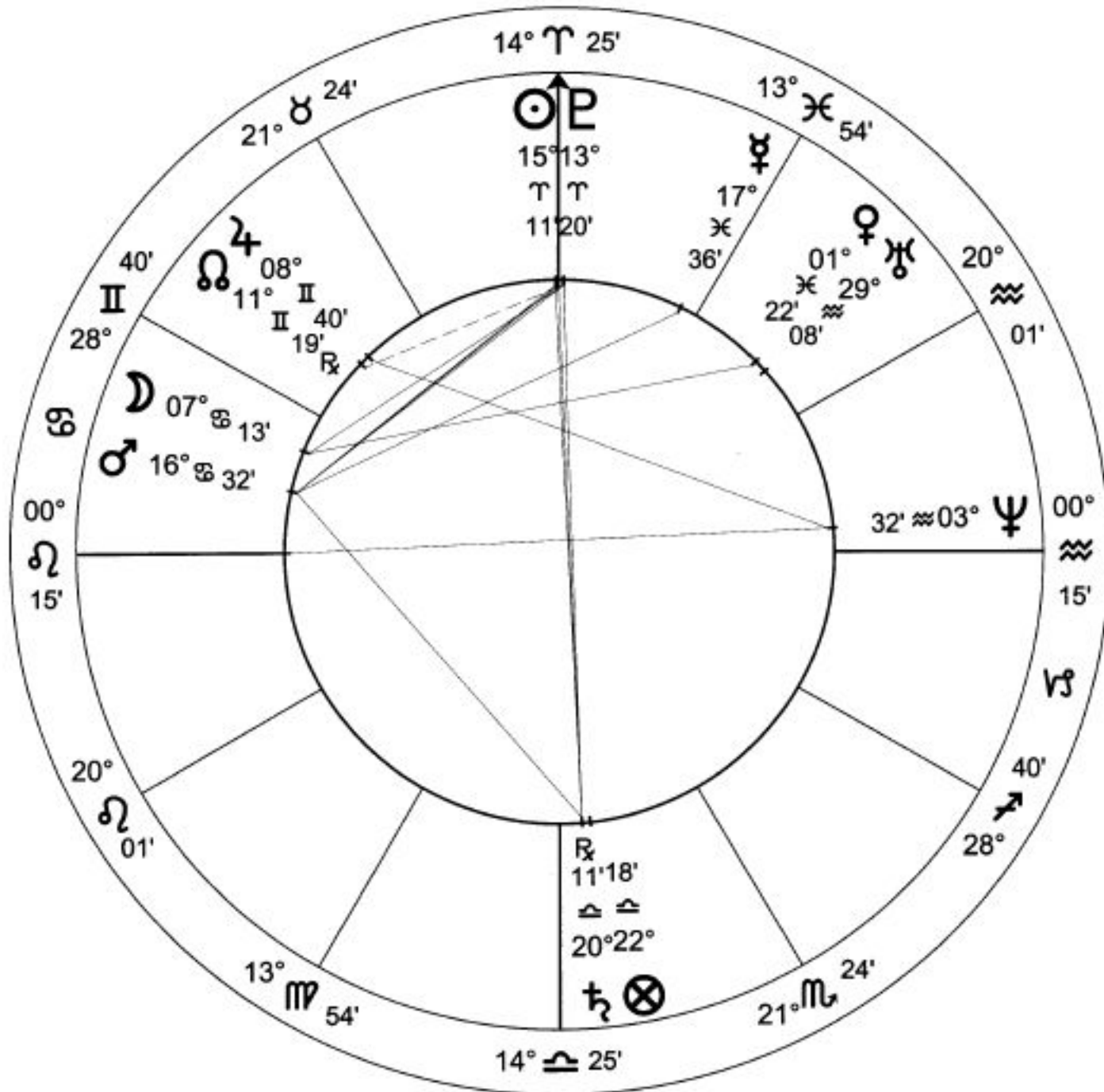
Evangeline, herself, later utilized this rule. At her famous fortune-telling trial in 1914, she had justified herself by quoting published astrological authorities, and reiterated the horoscope interpretation she had given an undercover detective posing as a client:



Detective Adele Priess' Daughter

October 12, 1889 11:00 AM EST; New York, NY 40N43 74W00

Source: Court transcript quotes Adele



Louise Chandler Moulton

April 5, 1835 Pomfret, CT 41N54 71W58

Source: *Appleton's Cyclopaedia* Vol. IV; noon chart.

She gave me the date of the daughter. I told her that the Sun was unfriendly to Herschel and that that indicated that she would not marry or be likely to marry the first man to whom she was engaged, that she must be careful about her friendships, as it indicated temptations. (Coleman, p. 41).

We can see the technique clearly at work in the horoscope of Evangeline's friend, Louise Chandler Moulton. Moulton wrote many books and was the Boston correspondent on literary topics for the *New York Tribune* for many years. Her marriage to a Boston publisher at the age of twenty seems to have been fortuitous, but she remained unhappy with him. Evangeline tells us in *The Bowl of Heaven* that,

Her husband was a fine, devoted, but extremely conservative man, with whom at times she became very much dissatisfied. (p. 42)

Even without a correct birth time, we can see Moulton's frustration with the man in her life. Her $\Upsilon \odot$ first approached a square to $\♂$ and then an opposition to $\♄$. Dr. Broughton had equated both with an "unhappy marriage." Even so, after her husband's death in 1898, Moulton confessed to Adams that now that she had her freedom, it was worthless compared with her husband's love and support.

Dr. Smith's next forecast regarding another marriage proposal for Evangeline was more easily divined. She probably visited Dr. Smith at around age nineteen, when she and her mother had moved to Boston. Transiting $\mathbb{M}$ trined her $\odot$ for the first time in late 1888—perhaps this also coincided with her introduction to astrology and Dr. Smith. But in 1889, the following year, $\mathbb{M}$ would exactly trine Adams' $\odot$ two more times. Since the $\odot$ rules the men in one's life in a woman's horoscope, and Dr. Smith's chart for Evangeline placed the $\odot$ ruling the Ω 7th house, this aspect makes sense. It is also a "once in a lifetime" event, and so fits Smith's description. Since Dr. Smith saw $\mathbb{M}$ transiting Evangeline's 8th, it's obvious why he thought the man in question would be wealthy.

Smith also said,

When you come before Saint Peter... I will tell him that the fact you have no children is not to be held against you. Your horoscope denies you offspring of your own. But it indicates that you are better able to rock the cradle of the world than the cradle of one child. (*Bowl* p. 31)

Perhaps he was reading $\mathbb{M}$ in her 5th house of children, or $\mathbb{F}$ ruling the 5th in a square aspect to $\♄$. But the $\odot \mathbin{\text{♁}} \mathbb{D}$, of course, also comments on the native's children and family, since they are related to the $\mathbb{D}$. Ellen H. Bennett, writing at about the same time as Dr. Broughton, says of this

aspect that,

Quarrels with the family occur. His parents separate, his children die or act amiss. (Bennett p. 238)

All of these things were true in Evangeline's case; she avoided any difficulty with children by not having any. Dr. Smith's experience with medical astrology may have provided more details about her ability to conceive.

Evangeline's interview with Dr. Smith gave her many more insights:

You are not only a born astrologer, and should take up the study of the science, but you should go a long way with it. Fear was left out of your horoscope. I doubt if you fear man, God or devil. (*Bowl* p. 33)

Evangeline's prominent $\odot \propto \♂$ in $\approx$ must have led to this statement, especially as $\♂$ ruled Evangeline's 9th house.

He told me that I had an influential planet in the house of travel, which would make me visit many foreign countries. And I have done so... In fact, he told me with startling accuracy the basic facts of my life. (*Bowl* p. 31)

$\♂$ ruling the 9th and conjoined with the Ascendant would have led to a conclusion of much travel. ♄ in ♎ in the 1st house indicates that travel would come easily to her. But despite the specificity and supposed accuracy of Smith's reading, he was looking at the wrong chart!

One thing bothered him. I gave him the hour of my birth as seven in the morning. But he insisted that it could not be true, as the zodiacal sign rising at that moment indicated a person of much slighter build and fairer complexion.

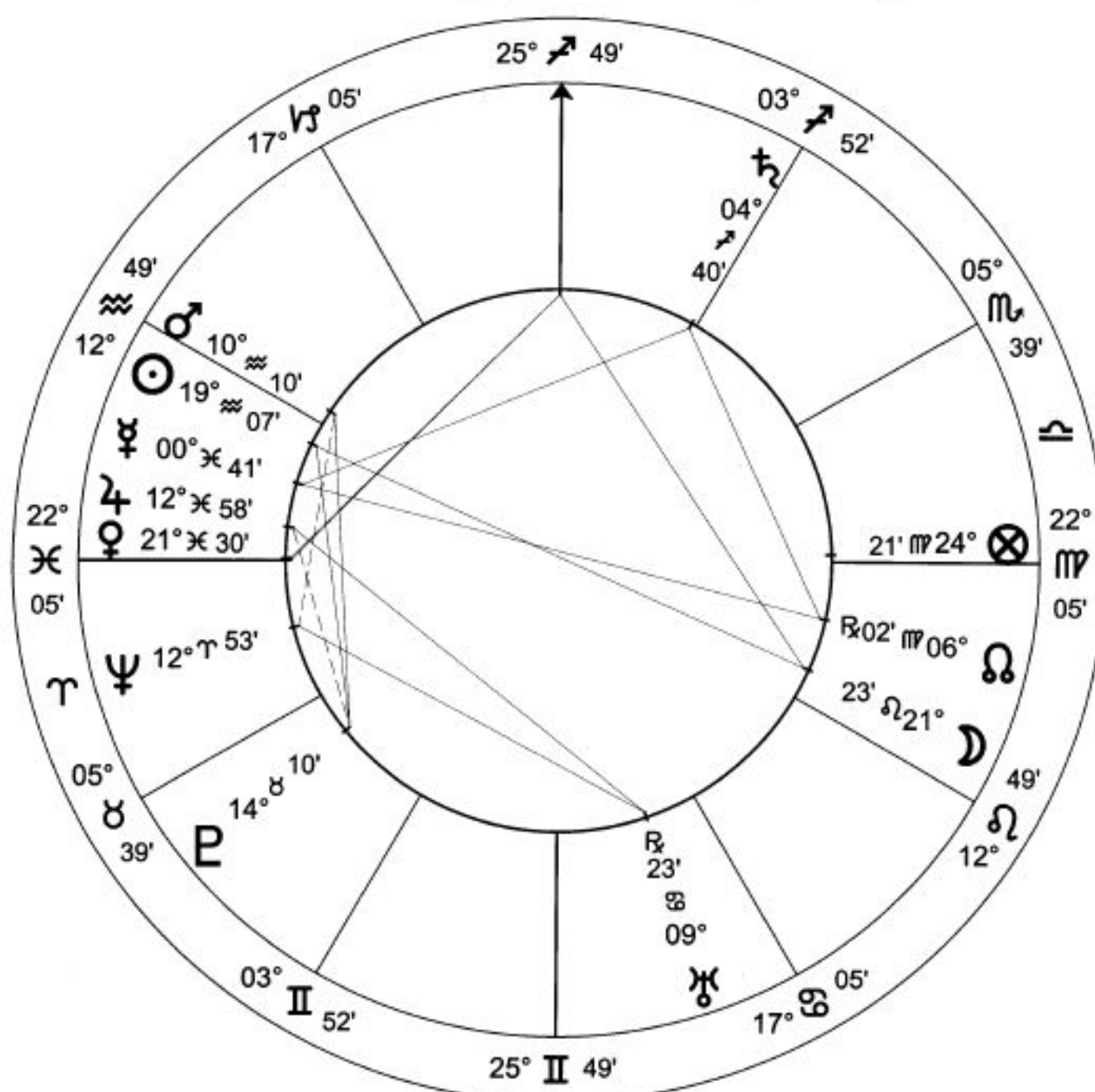
"But, Dr. Smith," I protested, "My mother said it was seven o'clock."

"She ought to know," he replied: and then added with true professional bluntness: "But if you had been born at that time, you would have been very beautiful."

Apparently, that settled it. He proceeded to draw up my chart for half past eight o'clock – a time which coincided with my personal appearance. And years later, when I had almost forgotten this feature of my first astrological interview, I found an old diary of my father's in the attic of my brother's house in Chicago. In this diary, he had recorded the exact moment when each of his children came into the world. Mine was "8:30 in the morning." (*Bowl* pp. 31-32)

The ruler of Evangeline's 7:00 o'clock Ascendant was ♅ , which should make one on the slim side. $\approx$, especially with the $\odot$ in the 1st house, is usually of middle to tall stature. Adams was stout, short, and

plain, certainly not a description that coincides with the ☉ rising. Dr. Broughton associated ♊ with light, flaxen hair; Evangeline's was darker.



Evangeline Adams – Correct time

February 8, 1868 8:30 a.m.

Jersey City, NJ 40N44 74W04

Source of time is Evangeline's father's diary

Her complexion, too, was not as fine as Dr. Broughton expected from this sign. ♄ rising, he thought, should give her,

A short stature, not very well made; a good large face, pale complexion, the body fleshy or swelling; not very straight, but stooping somewhat with the head when walking.
(Broughton p. 98)

This much more accurately describes Adams as she appears in photographs. A *New Yorker* interview described her in 1928 as “very short, plump without being bulky and walks with a slight limp.” The limp was the result of a riding accident in the summer of 1922. She had felt she was under “accidental conditions” with transiting ♄ on her Ascendant ruler, ♋, and transiting ♂ in ♌ (relating to horses and riding) squaring it from the 9th. Although she took the precaution of riding a gentle animal, Evangeline was thrown anyway.

Evangeline Adams used many other astrological techniques that can be pieced together from hints given in her books and published interpretations. But her description of Dr. Smith's reading is important, as she

always admired him and thought he was a wonderful astrologer. He was clearly a predictive astrologer who relied on more traditional techniques, and Evangeline no doubt followed his lead.

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Thanks to Edward L. Dearborn, Joseph Silveira deMello and Mary E. Jarvis for their help on information and sources.



I believe that at the birth of children, and particularly of the first-born, the planets as well as the Ascendant and Midheaven usually are in the same zodiacal degree areas, or in square or opposition to those areas, as at the birth of the father, or (especially) of the mother. I believe also that the same or similar aspects occur. . . . I was born when the ☽ was short of an opposition to the ☉ by 40°. With my first-born the ☽ was short by the same amount of a conjunction with the ☉. With the second child the ☽ had passed the opposition to the ☉ by the same number of degrees. With the fourth child the ☽ was 38° from the opposition to the ☉. With the third child it was not much different, for the ☽ was at a separation of 40° from the ☉ plus one day of lunar motion: the birth was expected on the previous day. I pass over further examples that agree with these.

—Johannes Kepler (*World Harmony*, 1619), trans. Ken Negus

Astrology, Prophecy & the Mysterious Future

KEN PAONE

WE NEVER KNOW exactly what the future holds or what lies around the corner. Although science and some religions mock and condemn man's attempts at forecast and prediction, God, however, has given man a number of ways to peer behind the veil of that mysterious world of tomorrow. These methods include astrology and prophecy, which man has employed in his exploration of this fascinating frontier of foretelling the future.

Both these disciplines, as we shall see, have had tremendous results. Signs in the sun, moon, and stars are astrology's realm. Messages, dreams, and visions from the Spirit of God are prophecy's sphere.

Ur in the land of the Chaldeans produced some of the world's first astrologers and prophets. The Chaldeans were renowned astrologers, and Abraham, an inhabitant of Ur, besides a probable knowledge of astrology, was a prophet and the forefather of the most famous Jewish and Jewish-Christian prophets.

Some of the most outstanding astrological predictions have to do with mundane events such as earthquakes and destructive storms. Opponents of astrology are hostile to the idea that the planets are pushing humans around without their consent. Astrologers don't like to think they're at the total mercy of the planets either. The whole idea of knowing certain upcoming trends as shown by one's horoscope is to be able to ameliorate the evil and benefit from the good. Nature, on the other hand, should respond more readily to cosmic commands. Such seems to be the case.

Isaac Newton's outstanding prediction of the earthquake and storm that would rock London and the English countryside in 1750 was determined by celestial conditions that included an eclipse at the time of Jupiter's closest approach to Earth. Twenty-three years after his death the storm and quake materialized in accordance with his prediction.

Alfred J. Pearce was one of the 19th century's ablest astrologers. Based on the outer planetary conjunctions of ♂, ♃ and ♆ in 1886, Pearce warned his readers a year beforehand that the 78th degree of West longitude was in line for severe earth shocks. He also forewarned of a great quake on the Italian peninsula. The trigger, according to Pearce, would be the solar eclipse of August 29, 1886 at which time the moon would be in perigee. On 30th August, the day following the eclipse, the worst earthquake in 29 years struck Naples, Italy. On 31st August, Charleston,

South Carolina was devastated by a massive earthquake, which was felt as far away as Omaha, Nebraska and Augusta, Maine.

The 20th century gave us astro-meteorologist G. J. McCormack. He contributed a substantial number of long-range weather prediction bull's-eyes to astrology's hall of fame, and made the first formal scientific presentation of weather astrology to the American Meteorological Society in January, 1964. One of his most outstanding forecasts was for the blizzard of December 26, 1947. McCormack had issued the forecast late in August that year calling for two feet of snow for the northeastern United States. He sent copies of his prediction to over 400 newspaper and radio stations. The blizzard, which appeared right on schedule but was missed by orthodox forecasters, immobilized metropolitan New York and immortalized McCormack as the Weather Prophet of Fair Lawn, New Jersey.

Certain planetary aspects in 2004 promise an active hurricane season. The ♀ ♂ in opposition to ☿ on August 18, 2004 gives warning of tropical storm or hurricane formation in the eastern Pacific around 127° West, 10° North. The New Moon chart places this terrible trio over the Mississippi River Valley where dangerous storms will threaten. Ireland and Portugal will also be affected by severe weather.

Between August 27 and 29, 2004 the eastern Pacific may once again witness the formation of a tropical storm or hurricane. The ☉ ♀ ☿ and the parallels among the ☉, ♀ and ♂ activate the area roughly between 121° and 127° West Longitude and 8° and 9° North Latitude.

Five years ago, in September 1999, Hurricane Floyd hit the US East Coast. The ♂ ♀ in exact square to the solar eclipse of February 26, 1998 acted as the principal astrological cause. This determined Floyd's landfall over the Carolinas. A similar astrological triggering mechanism takes place on September 10, 2004. ♂ and ♀ form a square and set in motion the solar eclipse of June 10, 2002. The implications are that severe weather of a tropical nature will strike Nicaragua or surrounding areas. In the States, areas along longitude 85° West will also be threatened by severe weather. This includes the Florida Panhandle region and areas northward through the East Central States. Northwestern Italy, Germany, and France all fall in line for dangerous atmospheric conditions now also. Since the ♀ ☿ also triggered this same eclipse on August 7, 2004, all of the aforementioned areas likely experienced severe weather then as well.

The Autumnal Equinox kicks in on September 22, 2004 on the same day that ♀ perfects its square to ♀. ♀ will conjoin the Midheaven along 80° West Longitude. The East Coast States from the Carolinas northward through western New York is the area where this ♀-♀ combination will upset atmospheric conditions. ♀'s affinity with the air indicates storms producing gusty winds. This, at times, is an indicator of a hurricane or tropical system.

♀-♀ will be at work over Europe where ♀ conjoins the Midheaven

over Longitude 9° East through Denmark, Germany, and northwestern Italy. ♀ descends through southern Italy, Austria, and Poland. Storms are indicated for these areas.

October 19-20, 2004 should stand out for residents of the East and West Coasts of the US. On these days, ♀ squares ☌, and the ☉ squares ♄. ♀ is on the Midheaven over the East Coast at Longitude 78° West where storms or a tropical system may hit. The West Coast is under ☉ ☌ ♄. This should bring atmospheric turbulence to the Pacific Northwest. Tropical storm or hurricane potential is shown for 130° West Longitude and 20° North Latitude in the eastern Pacific.

Central Europe between 9° and 14° East Longitude catches in on the ♀ ☌ ☌. Here, severe weather is likely. Ireland and Northern England will deal with the ☉ ☌ ♄, which should produce some significant storms and falling temperatures.

Based on the Solar Ingress chart, November 19-20, 2004 will bring more ☌ power to both Europe and the US East Coast. This time a ♀ ☌ ☌ over 11° East Longitude will bring severe weather throughout Italy, Germany, and surrounding countries. ♀ ☌ ♄ is also operative now and affects Ireland and northern England. ♀-♄ is known for chilly, damp weather with heavy downfalls.

The picture for the US is not pretty. The same conjunction squares the Midheaven through the Carolinas, Virginia, Pennsylvania, and New York. The Full Moon chart shows ♄ ascending over New York City as ♀ squares it. We should see a very active weather pattern over this area involving windy conditions. Since we're still in hurricane season, we can't rule out a tropical storm system yet.

December 10, 2004 brings us a ☉ ☌ ♄ with a retrograde ♄. These conjunctions usually excite high wind velocities and lower temperatures. The northeast US will probably see a strong cold front muscle in on gusty winds around this time. One other possibility, although remote, is that an out-of-season tropical storm system hits the Carolinas and moves towards the Northeast. For Europe, this time means active winds and a strong cold front along 8° East Longitude through Germany and Italy.

Prophecy also links us with future events. Many notable prophets descended through Abraham. The inspired prophecies uttered by these ancient seers have been a reliable indicator of coming world events for thousands of years. The prophet Ezekiel, for example, in the 6th century BC recorded his visions of the future. The 26th chapter of his book contains an amazing prophecy of the destruction of the ancient city of Tyre. He wrote: *"I will cause many nations to come up against thee...I will also scrape her dust from her, and make her like the top of a rock...it shall be a place for the spreading of nets in the midst of the sea...Nebuchadnezzar, king of Babylon...shall make a fort against thee and...lift up the buckler against thee...they shall lay thy stones and thy timber and thy dust in the midst of the water...thou shalt be built no*

more." (Ezekiel 26: 3, 4, 5, 8, 12, 14) Three years after the prophecy, Nebuchadnezzar began his siege of mainland Tyre, which lasted for 13 years. Upon entering the city, he found it almost empty: the inhabitants had fled to an island ½ mile off the coast. The mainland city in accordance with the prophecy was destroyed in 573 BC by Nebuchadnezzar.

Later, Alexander the Great laid siege to the island city of Tyre. Since he possessed no fleet, he scraped the ruins of old Tyre on the mainland into the sea, as indicated in the prophecy, and built a causeway 200 feet wide out to the island fortification and subdued it. This causeway has since been used as a place for fishermen to spread their nets to dry in agreement with Ezekiel's statement. Every time Tyre was rebuilt on the site of the ancient city it was besieged and destroyed until it never was rebuilt there again, thus fulfilling Ezekiel's warnings that many nations would come against it and it would not be restored. Although the site of ancient Tyre is an excellent location for a city with a freshwater spring that provides 10,000,000 gallons daily, the city of Tyre today is located down the coast from the original city.

Ezekiel also penned the following prophecy, which has been quoted as one of the proofs of the Messiahship of Jesus Christ. "Then He brought me back the way of the gate of the outward sanctuary which looketh toward the east; and it was shut. Then said the Lord unto me: This gate shall be shut, it shall not be opened, and no man shall enter in by it; because the Lord, the God of Israel, hath entered in by it, therefore it shall be shut." (Ezekiel 44:1-2) When Jesus made his triumphal entry into Jerusalem shortly before his crucifixion, he came from the Mount of Olives entering the city by the east gate that led to the temple or sanctuary referred to above. In 70 AD, the city of Jerusalem was utterly destroyed by the Roman armies. It wasn't until 1542 under the Moslem Sultan, Sulieman, that the walls of Jerusalem were rebuilt. Sulieman, aware that many Jews still awaited a Messiah to enter by the east gate, walled that gate completely shut, thus fulfilling Ezekiel's prophecy that it would be shut because the Lord had already entered in by it.

The prophetic book of Revelation has intrigued its readers for hundreds of years. Eschatologists, theologians, and truth-seekers have attempted to unravel its mysteries in order to understand future events. One of the most famous prophecies from this book of the future seems to be about ready to find its fulfillment. John the Revelator recorded the following on the island of Patmos approximately two thousand years ago:

"And he causeth all, both small and great, rich and poor, free and bond, to receive a mark in their right hand, or in their foreheads: And that no man might buy or sell, save he that had the mark, or the name of the beast, or the number of his name...six hundred threescore and six."

(Revelation 13:16-18)

For years now, we've been conditioned to accept the need to have numbers represent us or certain aspects of our lives, but never before have we had the technology available to make the Mark of the Beast a reality. A number of forerunners to the apocalyptic Mark are making their way onto the world scene. Take, for example, the dime-sized implantable transceiver called *Digital Angel*® by Applied Digital Solutions. The device sends out a homing beacon that can be traced by GPS systems and used to track and monitor humans. The transceiver is powered electromechanically through the muscle movement of the wearer or through a monitoring facility. Past attempts at producing monitoring devices for widespread tracking were unsuccessful due to size limitations, maintenance requirements, and insufficient or inconvenient power-supply to name a few.

The sales approach for *Digital Angel*® highlights its ability to improve business security, monitor medical conditions, locate individuals, and track military and diplomatic personnel as well as personal property. *Digital Angel*®, of course, is not the Mark of the Beast. John the Revelator clearly brings out that the Mark will be used for economic transactions in a cashless, one-world society. None of these concepts seems too improbable at this time. In fact, each one—the Mark, a cashless society, and a one-world or New World Order—is on its way to fulfillment.

The tools of astrology and prophecy are given to us to help us navigate into the future. Although we may not know the exact details of our tomorrow or that of the world, we might not need to. The skillful use of our instruments and a few well-placed prophetic signposts along the way can see us through to our destination safe and sound.



A human being's nature, at the beginning of life, receives not only an instantaneous image of the sky, but also its motion as it appears down here on earth, for several successive days; and derives from this motion the way in which it will discharge this or that humor; and the time at which this nature will, very accurately, time these developments, as determined by the directions based on the first few days of life.

—**Johannes Kepler** (*Tertius Interveniens*, 1610), trans. Ken Negus

David Hyland

A Life in Solar Returns

PRIER WINTLE

I FIRST MET David Hyland at the Welcome Club for ex-patients in the grounds of Valkenberg psychiatric hospital, Cape Town, about two years ago. I go there every now and then since I am myself an ex-patient, having been admitted there in July 1990 with Acute Clinical Major Depression. One meets very interesting people there. Sometimes I think it takes a bout of mental illness to jerk one into true sanity, so that one can genuinely understand and genuinely feel what other human beings are experiencing.

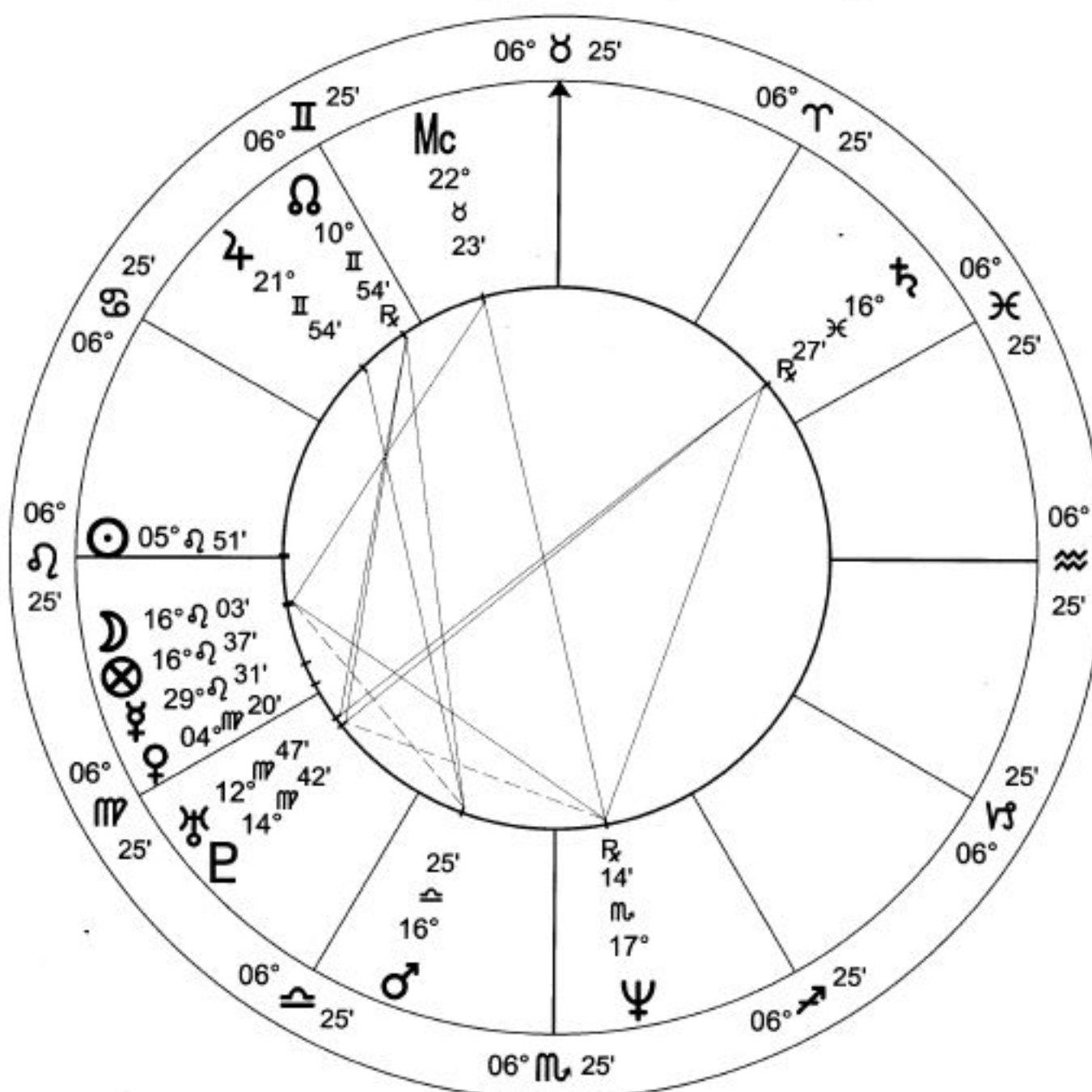


Figure 1:

David Hyland
 6:50 AM EET (04:50 UT) 29th July 1965
 Durban, South Africa: 29S49, 30E50

David was discussing UFOs with another visitor there whom I haven't seen again since. I listened avidly because UFOs interest me and because it struck me that what they were saying was both extremely well informed and highly intelligent. I didn't say anything myself and they both left before I could ask any questions. David reappeared about a

month later and I asked him what he really thought about UFOs. He replied that they were visitors or communicators. “The Others,” he called them. He said he had had a close encounter with them in 1988 or 1989 and that it had changed his whole life. From then on he just ‘knew’.

What is his diagnosis?

Schizophrenia.

Does that explain it all?

He was born in Durban, South Africa on 29th July 1965 at ten minutes to seven in the morning (see Figure 1). He had been able to ascertain the exact time. The ☉ is almost exactly on the Ascendant but weakly aspected and the chart as a whole is full of problematic indications, such as a mutable T-square between ♋, ♏ and ♌ (the insanity T-square) and an extended fan of semi-sextiles between the ♌, ♌, ♎ and ♏, all contained within the square from the ♌ to ♏. With ♏ in the 8th house within a degree of exact quincunx to the ♌ ♂ ⊗ in the 1st one would not expect a smooth and happy personal life, for ♏ is also the pointing figure of an exact Yod figure (exact quincunxes to the ♌ and ♎, which are in an exact sextile). About the only nice thing is a trine from ♏ to the 4th house ♏, showing some kind of spiritual resilience or contact with spiritual people in the home.

David’s father was 50 when he married David’s mother, then aged 20. They proceeded to have four children, first two girls a year apart and then five years later two boys, David and his younger brother, two years apart. Almost immediately after the last of these births, with the child still not fully weaned, the mother upped and left. She never figured again in David’s life.

Figure 2 is the solar return for David’s second birthday, calculated for the birth place. It has ♏ ♂ ♌ on the 8th cusp (♏ is the chart ruler); ♎ in the 9th, only 1° from a square to the ☉ in the 6th and ♋ near the 7th cusp in close square to the Midheaven. ♎, ♌ and the ☉ are actually in a nearly exact fixed T-square—an indication of something long lasting, as the mother’s departure proved to be. And look at ♏, exactly quincunx to ♏ in the 7th! Once again ♏ provides the only hopeful indication. He is exactly ♂ ⊗ at the top of a fan of sextiles, first with ♏ ♂ ♌ on cusp 8 and then with ♏ near cusp 6. In some way or another a spiritual outlook would help.

Almost certainly the spiritual influence was David’s father, for both he and an uncle, Uncle Dan, were spiritualist mediums (♏ natively in the 4th house). He spoilt David and all his children outrageously though David still felt scarred for life by the loss of his mother.

And then when David was nine his father suddenly died. It was 23rd December 1974 and he had told David in the morning that he would die that night. Look at Figure 3, the solar return for that year. ♏ is exactly rising and ♏, the chart ruler up in the 9th house, is closely ♂ ♏, both close to the Midheaven. The IC usually has more connection with the father

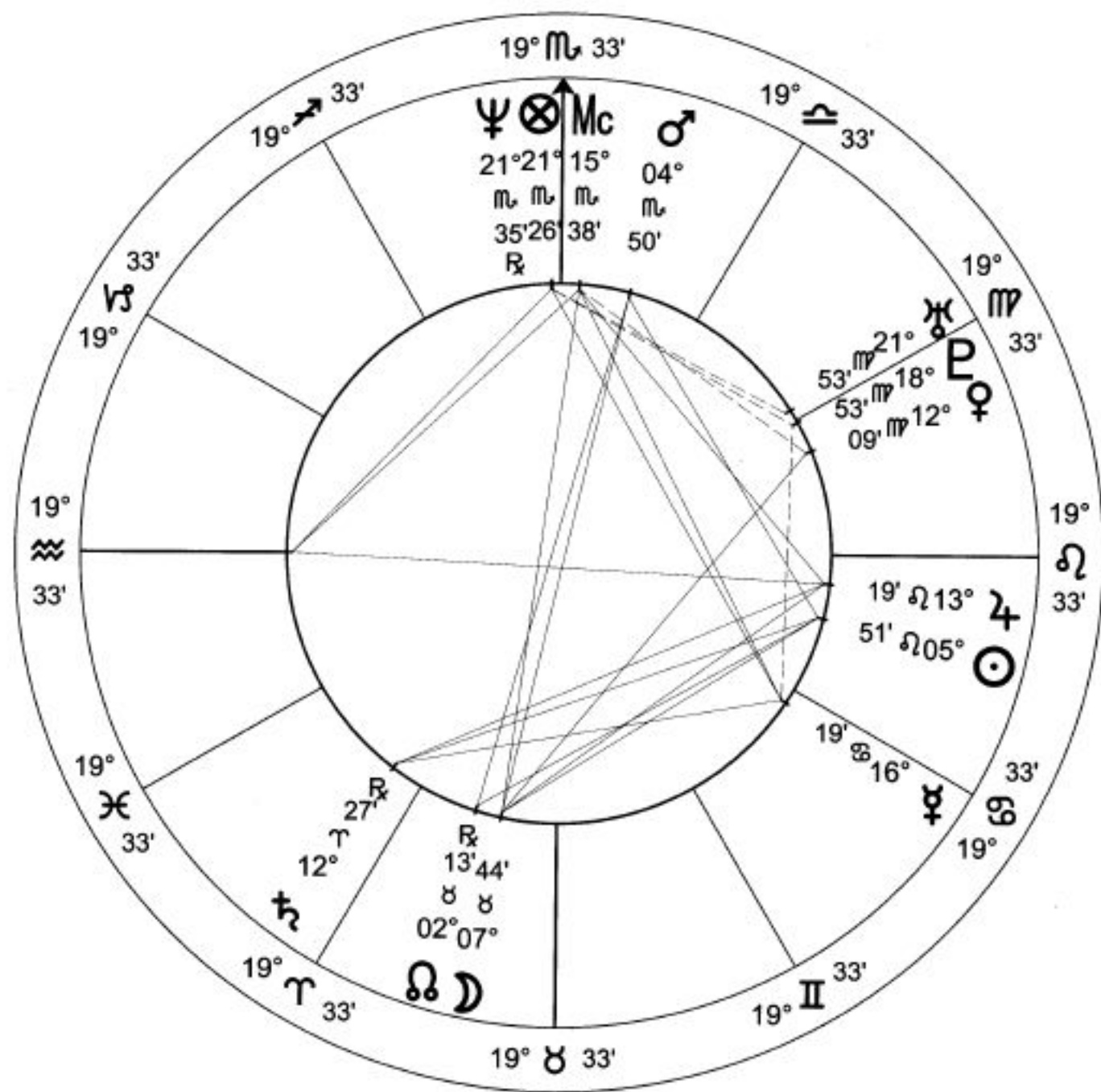


Figure 2: 1967 Solar Return¹

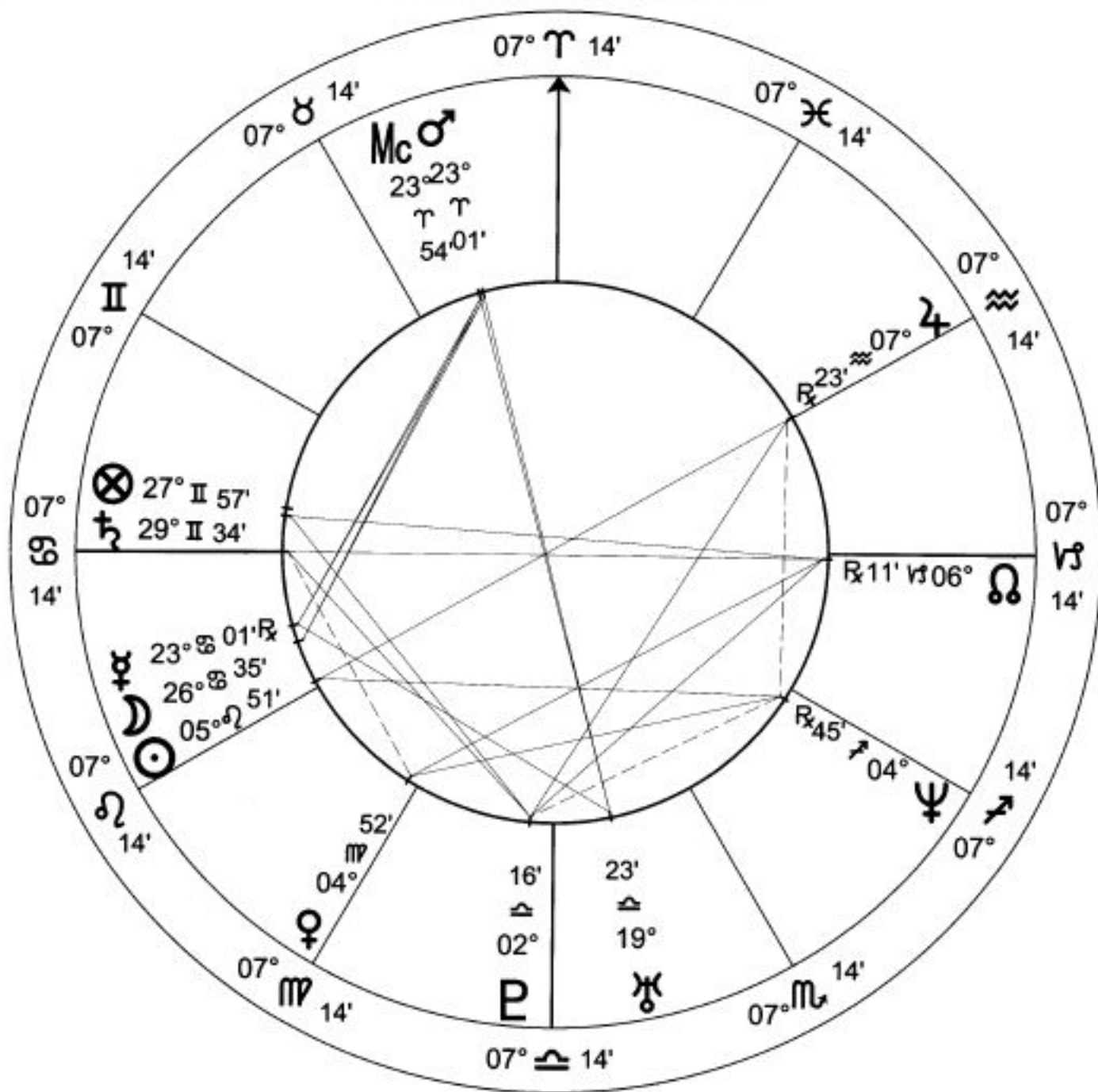


Figure 3: 1973 Solar Return

¹ All solar returns are cast for the native's birth place.

than the MC but here ♄ rules the IC and David's father had in effect stood in for his mother since she left. Moreover ♀, ♄ and the MC are all in parallel to the ♃, another cardinal indicator of the mother, and she in turn is ☊ ♄.

As what may have been in part an emotional reaction to his father's death, David developed severe asthma in 1974-75, as well as general allergies. He spent almost a year off school, in hospital. He could not go into a house where a cat had been or his eyes became swollen. For three months he slept with an oxygen tent over his bed. They were living in Johannesburg then but he was sent back to Durban to acclimatize. When he did go to school he couldn't go outside to play with the other children but had to sit in the library. It was very boring for a young child but at least he learnt to read some interesting books while there.

Another contributing cause of all of this was the fact that from age eight onwards David was having psychiatric treatment for frontal lobe epilepsy (now called Attention Deficit Disorder). Very possibly he was allergic to the medication that was prescribed.

But very importantly, this was also the year (age eight) that he first began to hear voices. He doesn't know what they were. They were quite friendly and he simply calls them "The Others". They are of course a well known symptom of schizophrenia but perhaps in David's case he was just beginning to develop as a medium, like his father and uncle. Figure 3, the solar return for his 8th birthday (1973) shows ♄ in the 4th cusp opposed by ♂ ☊ the MC. There is also a close ♃ ☊ ♀ squaring the ♂ ☊ ♄, which helps us to understand what the psychiatrists would have said. They would win out too, for the ☊ is opposed by ♄, while the 4th house ♄ is at the midpoint of the ♀ ☊ ♀, semisquare to both. What can one do against that? Something perhaps while father is around, but nothing when he dies next year. There was a promising sextile fan between the ☊, ♃ and ♀ that year and due to the slow movement of ♀ and ♃ this was repeated in the chart for age nine. A mutual reception between ♄, ruling the 6th house, and ♀, the 9th ruler, disposes of everything in the chart except the ☊, who stands alone. In the birth chart the ☊ disposes of everything else and David unquestionably does have a strong sense of his own individuality as a person, but the ☊ is weakly aspected so it is not always easy for him to make that individuality felt.

The solar return for age 10 (Figure 5) is a particularly difficult one, and so that year proved to be—worse than the previous year when his father died and he had all the allergies. David was sent to a foster home run by a woman who took an instant dislike to him and whom he immediately hated equally. He was also put permanently onto Tegritol and Epilim for his frontal lobe epilepsy and had to take these drugs for the next eight years till he was aged 18, when he went into the army. If he ever had to ask his foster mother for anything she would become angry

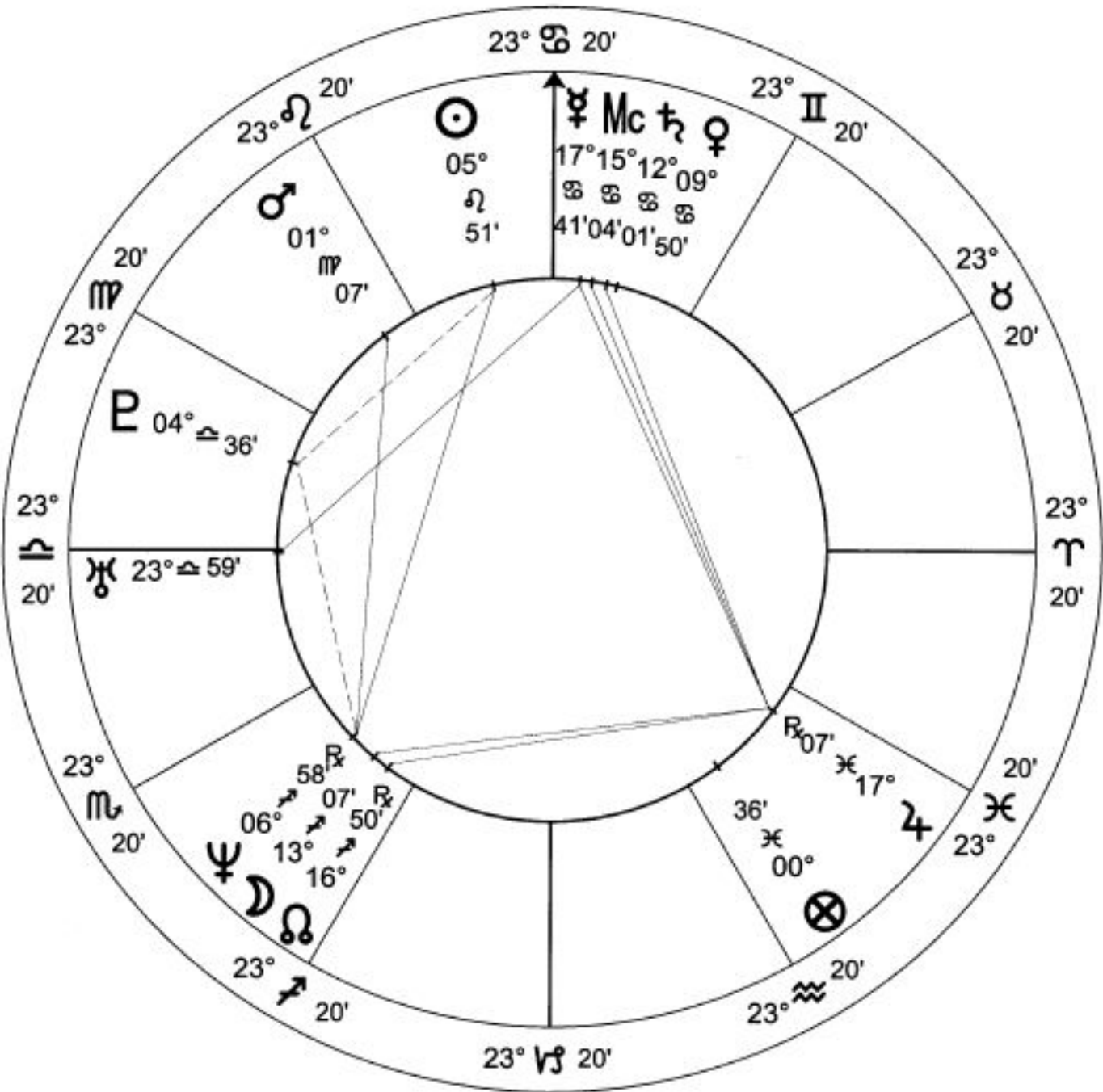


Figure 4: 1974 Solar Return

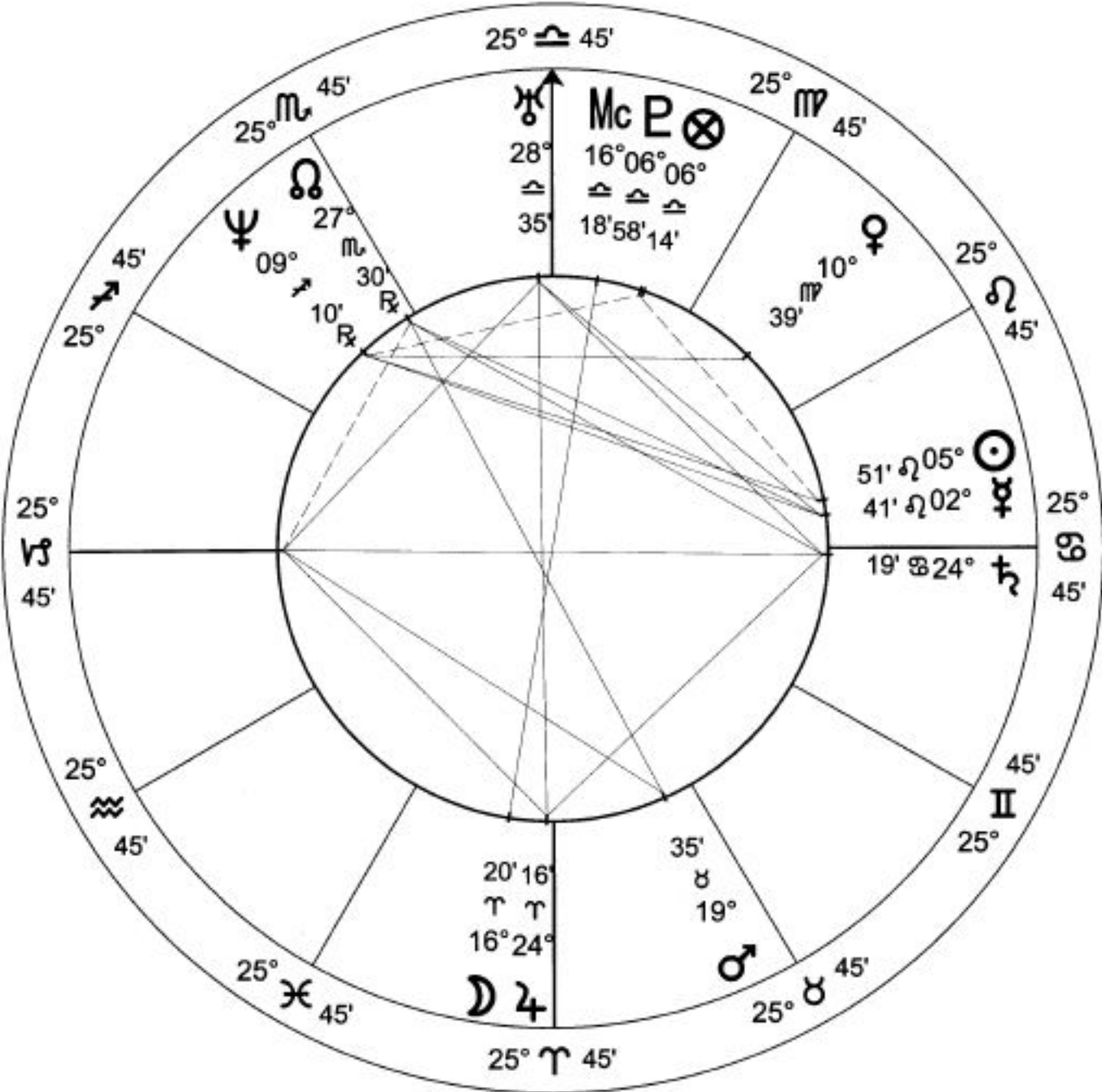


Figure 5: 1975 Solar Return

and humiliate him. In his early teens he needed some equipment for school but couldn't bear to ask her for the money for it. Instead he would simply not go to school on Tuesdays and Fridays.

Figure 5 has ♄, the chart ruler, opposing the Ascendant from its detriment and squared by the angular ♃ ♌ ♋. It was David's first real experience of the external world and with no personal family support everything must have appeared to have been turned against him. ♄ ♌ ⊗ just about tells it all. Perhaps the only good thing in this return is the ever-present annual fan of ☉ * ♄ * ♀, here from the 7th to the 9th and the 11th. Despite everything David was growing and becoming aware of his own individual way of perceiving and understanding the world around him.

At age 14 he began smoking Dagga (marihuana). This of course is common with perhaps a majority of children in South Africa, and probably world wide, but to David it represented a way of release. The solar return at Figure 6 shows ♄ rising with its ruler ♄ square and parallel to ♀ on the 12th cusp. There is also a mutable T-square between ♀, ♌ in the 6th and ⊗ on cusp 3, which ♄ almost but not quite transforms into a mutable grand cross. It was a dangerous time, but one can see the release as well since ♀ is closely trined by ♃ from the 8th cusp while ♄ at the 10th cusp closely sextiles both. Note the ☽ right on the Midheaven as well, exactly sextiling the ☉ (♌ ♍) in the 7th. It is a bowl-type chart according to the Marc Edmund Jones classification, with almost everything in the upper hemisphere and only ♌ in the lower, so everything David was experiencing was outside himself and his family. The external world was opening up, as well as the dream world of marihuana.

Given David's circumstances and lack of family support, the drug way out was unquestionably a danger. At age 20, after he came out of the army, he got seriously into LSD. The solar return for 1985 (Figure 8) is a highly complex chart and much else was going on in his life at the time, but note ♀ up near the 8th cusp in close dissociate conjunction with the ☽ and quincunx ♌ (♌ ☉), who is in exact square to ♄ (♌ ⊗). There was enough in that lot to blow almost anyone apart. As David himself says, LSD completely dissolves your sense of rational limits. He likens it to peyote, which the sorcerer Don Juan gave to Carlos Casteneda, as related by Casteneda in his book *The Teachings of Don Juan, a Yacqui way of knowledge*. It completely changed David's perceptions of the world he lived in, as well as of himself and all the people he was encountering and relating to.

Before his LSD tripping started David had been called up into the South African army. In the days of Apartheid all young South African white males had to do two years of military training between the ages of 18 and 20. David began his stint in January 1984, five months after his 18th birthday. The solar return for 1983 (Figure 7) is a bucket type according to the Marc Edmund Jones' classification with the ☽ in the 3rd house, exactly on the IC, as the handle of the upturned bucket and the

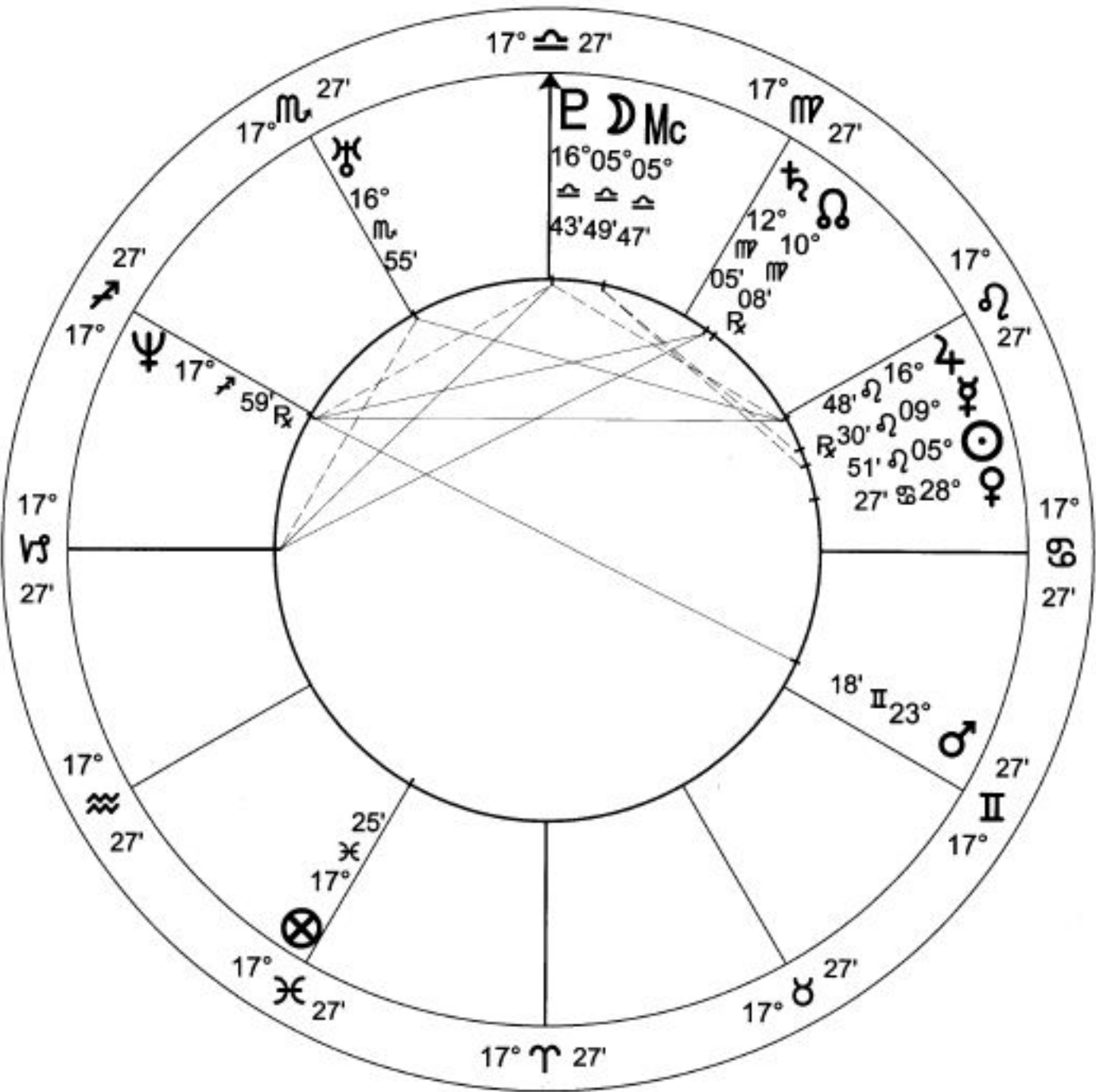


Figure 6:

1979 Solar Return

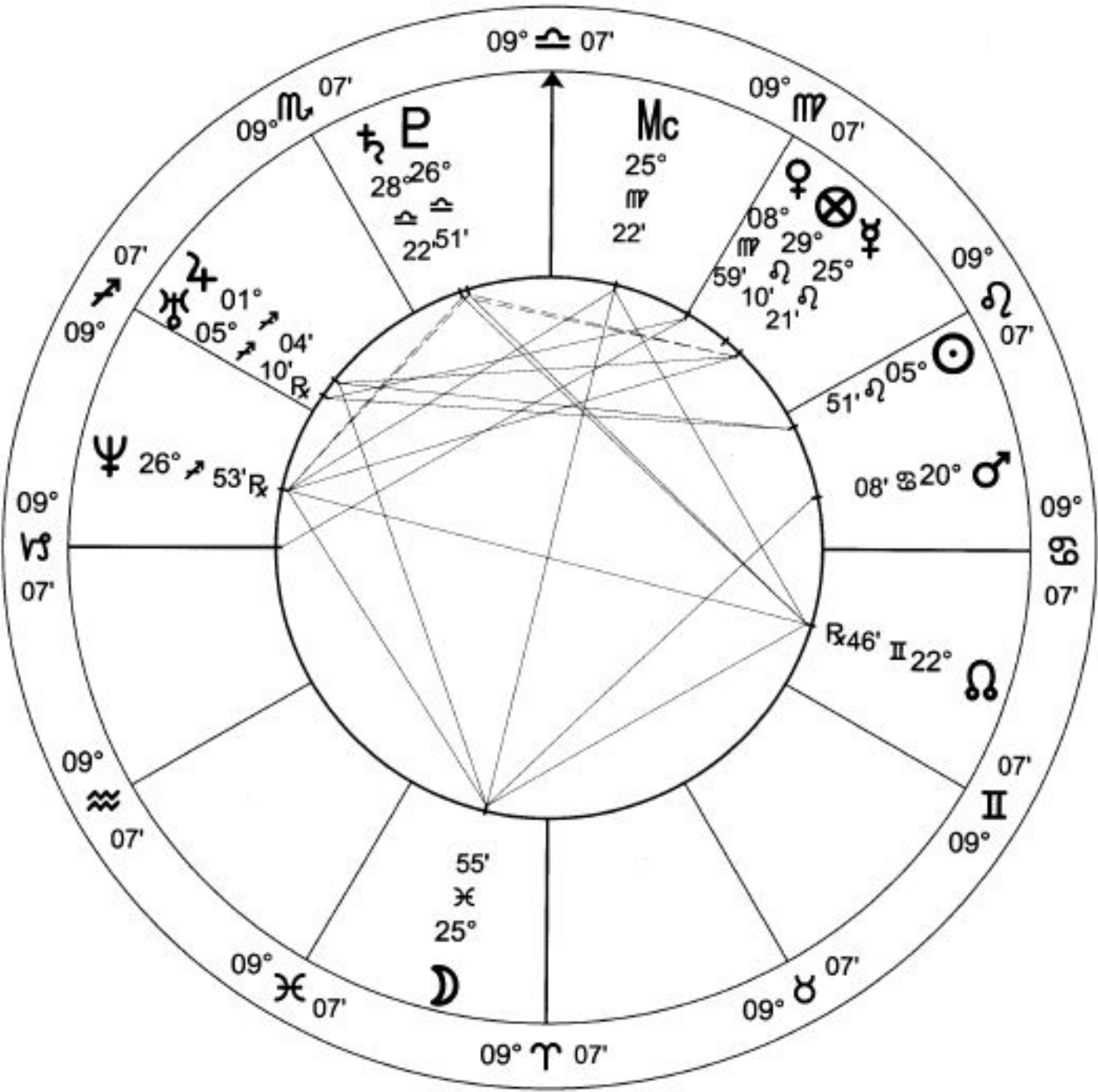


Figure 7:

1983 Solar Return

only planet in the nocturnal hemisphere. She is also the pointing finger of a Yod since she is quincunx both to the $\mathbb{P} \propto \text{♄}$ (♄ is the chart ruler) in the 10th house and to the 8th house $\text{♁} \propto \text{♁}$. This sounds fairly complex but actually the chart is in the main a harmonious one. The $\odot$ in the 7th (near cusp 8) is in an exact trine to ♁ ($\propto \text{♄}$) on cusp 12, and there is a very nice fan of sextiles linking ♁ and ♁ in the 8th to $\mathbb{P}$ and ♄ in the 10th and ♁ in the 12th. ♁ does square ♁ , showing some emotional turmoil, but she is also closely trine to the Ascendant. Basically, what the chart suggests is the start of a constructive couple of years out in the world associating with other people, having time to recover from a harrowing late childhood and teens during which he was continuously being criticized and suppressed by his hostile foster mother. And David confirms that this was so. All he had to do in the army was to do as he was told. And it gave him time to mature emotionally under the surface of it all, with no one watching him, as shown by that Yod ♁ secretly handling the bucket, that was all that anyone saw.

In addition to beginning to take LSD, David began working for the State Theatre in Pretoria in April 1986, not long after his release from the army. Initially he had just been asked to help out but they quickly realized he had a gift for handling lighting and he was offered a job. He held it until the start of 1990. There were some hairy moments, such as when one actress tripped and fell off the stage into the front row of the audience, and when another fell down from high above the stage behind the lighting at the back yet miraculously wasn't killed, though she was hurt. Despite these occurrences and others, David was regarded as a valued employee because he had an unconventional expertise that no one else could match. See $\text{♁} \propto \mathbb{P}$ in the 2nd house of his birth chart, $\text{♁} \propto \text{♁}$ in the 4th, in addition to the assertive magnetism of the $\odot$ exactly rising in its own sign. One anecdote neatly illustrates this. A woman co-employee found him attractive and more or less demanded a relationship, but he didn't respond. She then went to the management and asked them if they were aware that he was sitting at his stage control post with a bottle of whisky on one side, dagga cigarettes on the other, and LSD and other pills on the counter in front of him. "A bottle of whisky...dagga...LSD," repeated the manager. "Yes, that sounds like David Hyland. What about it?" ♄ is high up in the 9th house of his 1985 solar return, sextile UR just above the 7th cusp. ♁ is exactly $\text{♁} \propto \text{♁}$ too, from the 1st to the 3rd, and although ♁ does oppose the 7th house ♁ , we have just seen that a woman's bitchiness is not always deadly. Of course he was liked. He was put on a pedestal.

The next few years were very full in David's life—full in eventful, life-pattern-making ways. Several things happened together or overlapped but I shall have to deal with them one by one here in order to make them intelligible.

First, in early 1988 (before his 23rd birthday) he says he became "spiritually aware". That's his phrase to describe the experience of be

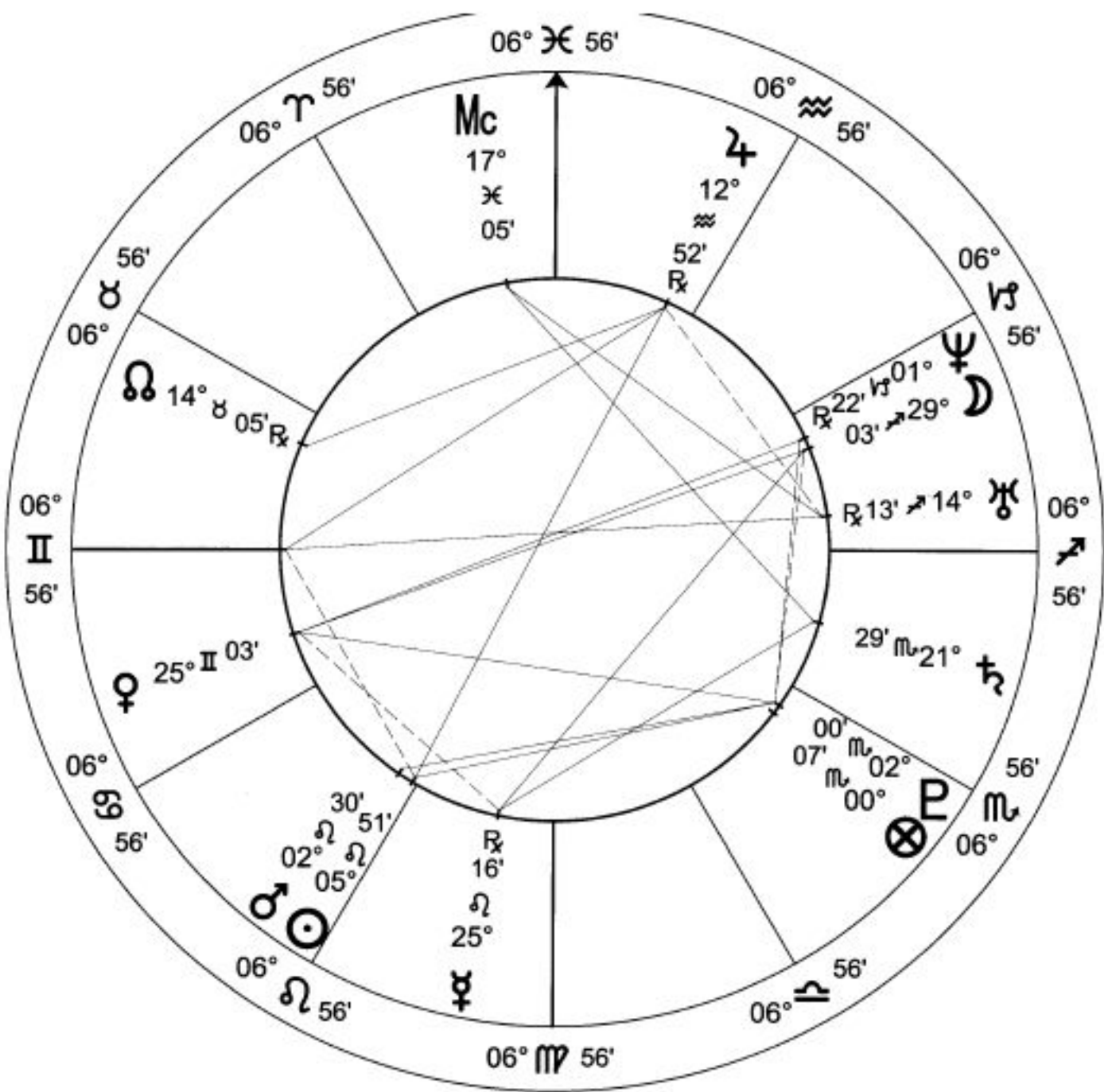


Figure 8:

1985 Solar Return

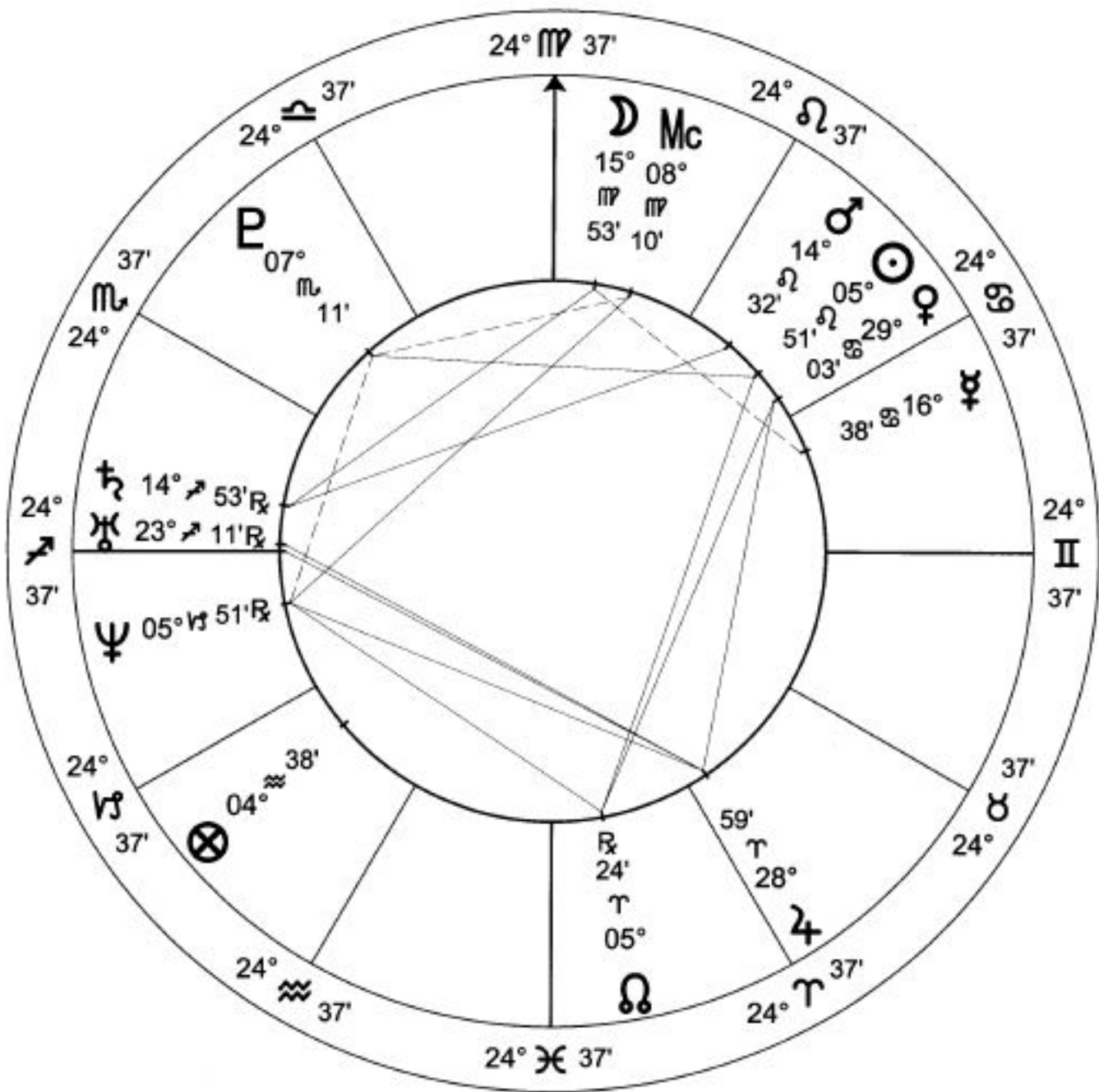


Figure 9:

1987 Solar Return

coming associated with people who began explaining to him what the voices he had heard, as well as other strange phenomena that had happened to him earlier or were still happening, were really all about. He had begun hanging out with people who said they belonged to the Society of the Golden Dawn. Really it was a Crowleyan derivative of the original Society of the Golden Dawn founded in London in 1885 by Macgregor Mathers, Wynn Westcott and Dr. Woodman. It was certainly Crowleyized. David's description of it goes: "Drugs are taken here; orgies go on in that bedroom; approval from spirits is obtained by fornication with so and so," and so on and so on. He began having schizophrenic episodes at the same time. The Golden Dawn people taught him to take careful note of highlighted words in comics like *Jasper*, *Archie*, etc., because they link up in the subconscious mind and give one instruction. Spirits would also use the TV to give him messages. Perhaps it was so, but this is a well-known symptom of schizophrenia.

He left the Golden Dawn in June 1989 after less than a year and a half of association, but he was scarred for life. He didn't want to be involved in some of the things they were doing. However, they didn't at all approve of his leaving so they placed two curses on him. One was a death curse to affect people he associated with. It was to last five years. The other was to cause him to be locked up for insanity so that no one would believe him were he to speak about the Golden Dawn.

One thing that happened almost at once was that a Jewish man who ran the Sangreal bookshop in Johannesburg, and had been helping him with banishing rituals for familiar spirits, besides providing Qabalistic manuscripts, suddenly disappeared. One day the bookshop was open, cheerful and busy. The next it was abandoned and deserted with every shelf empty. David found himself wondering if he had imagined ever knowing him.

Who knows?

Perhaps he had.

He believes that these people had a kind of arrangement, or even a contracted agreement, with aliens from UFOs. They were not abductees but had simply been contacted by people in authority on these craft and given instruction by them, as well as certain powers of a quasi-hypnotic character, in exchange for an undertaking to follow a particular life pattern and recruit other suitable people. This was David's contact with them that he mentioned the very first time I spoke with him—a life changing contact.

David was diagnosed as a schizophrenic before the end of 1989 and then hospitalized throughout most of 1990. He was in hospital for three months stints interspersed with brief periods of discharge. He was injected with heavy doses of *Fluanxol*, one of the tougher chlorpromazine drugs used to treat schizophrenia. He felt it just about burst him out of

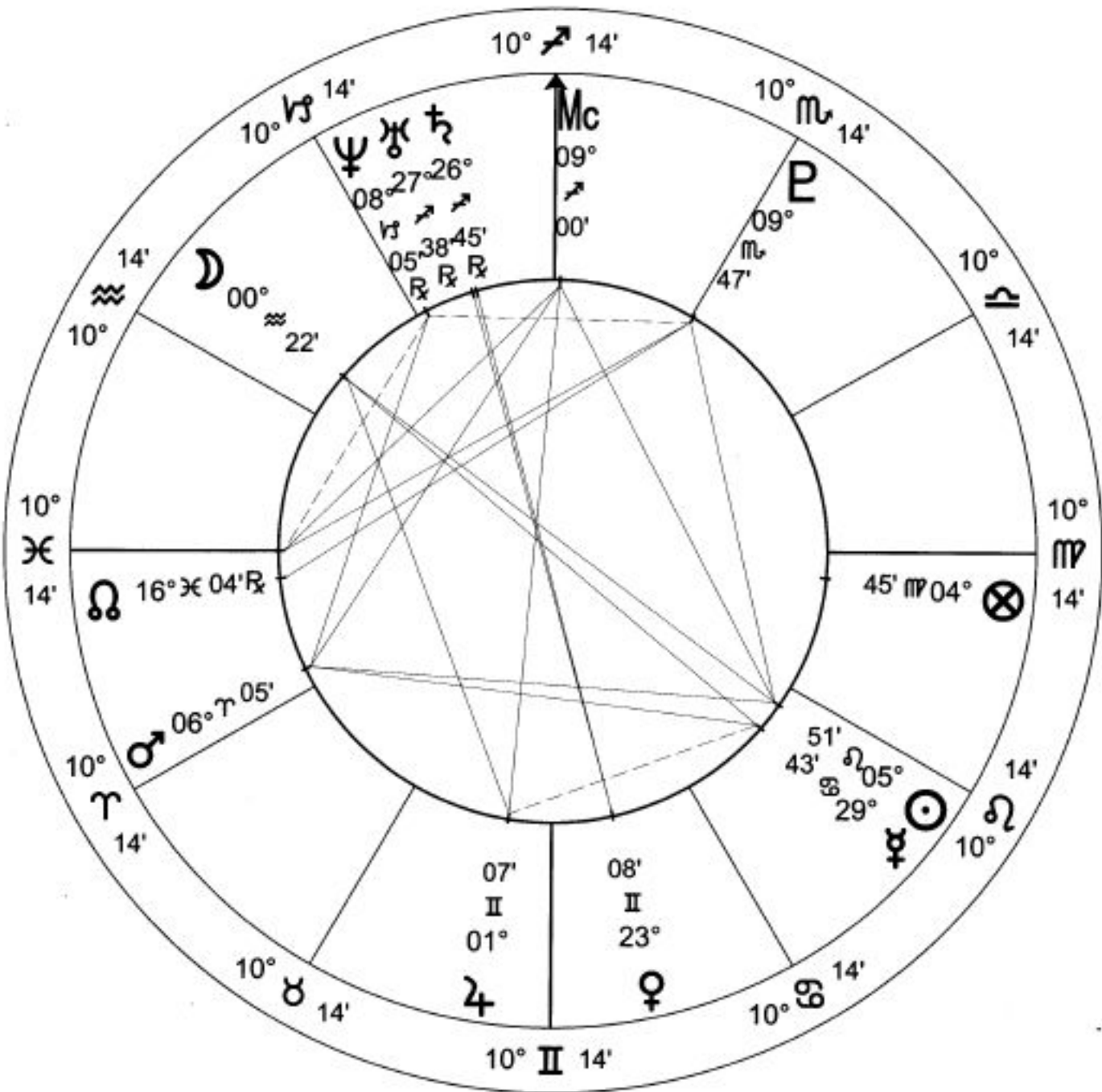


Figure 10: 1988 Solar Return

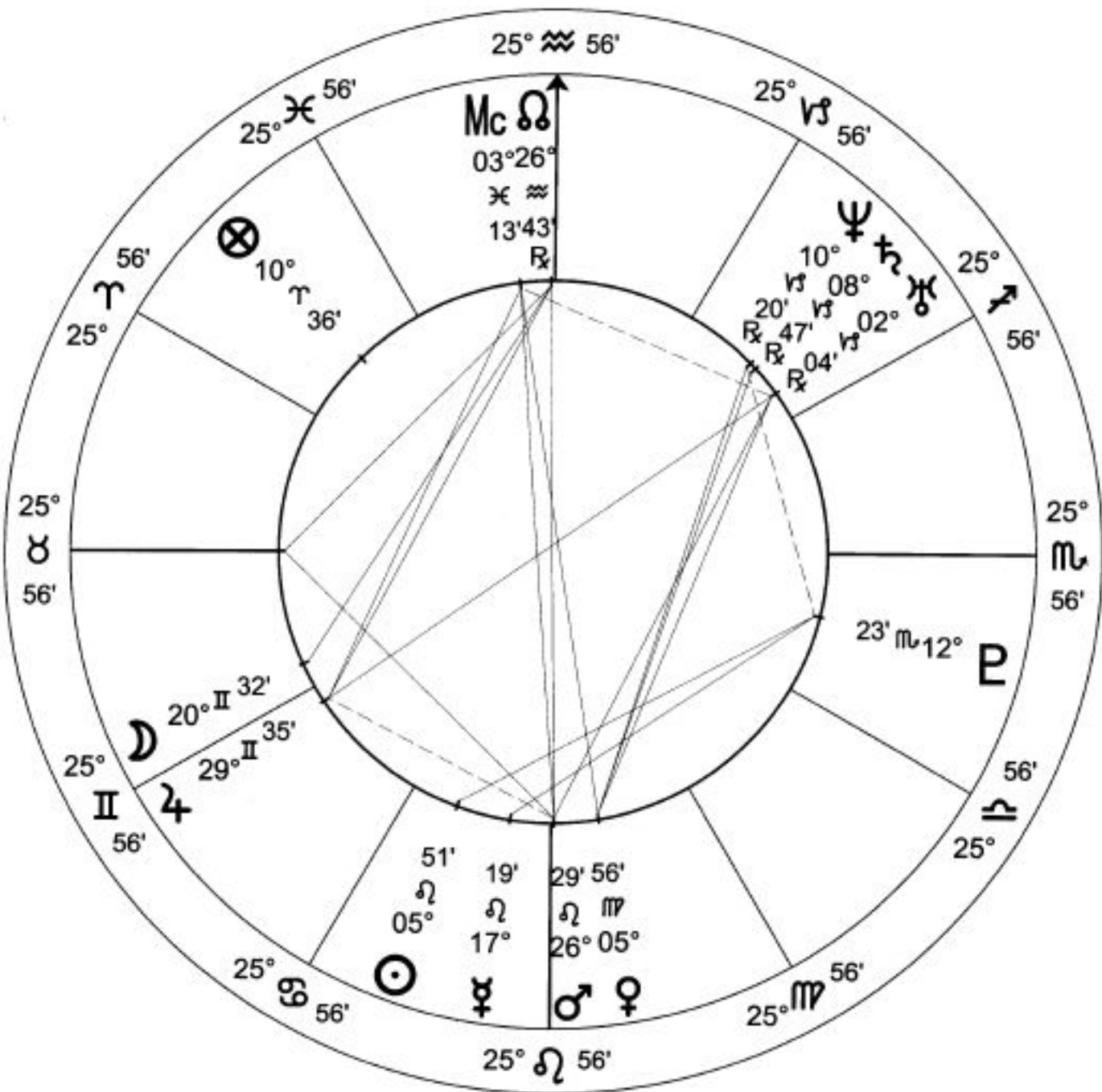


Figure 11: 1989 Solar Return

his skin and made him unsure who he was or what was happening to him. It is now very hard for him to remember this whole period clearly and consecutively.

The relevant solar returns begin with the 1987 one (Figure 9), which covers the time when he first met the Golden Dawn people in early 1988.

He was still working in the State Theatre then. ♃ is just 1° above the Ascendant in ♈ (Figure 9), △ ♃ in the 5th house. Initially it felt like a new revelation in his life, bringing release and widening his horizons. But look at the ⊗ in the 2nd house, opposing the ☉ and ♀, both in the 8th. There was a price to be paid—a sexual price and eventually one that would affect his job as well. ♃ in the 12th is exactly △ ♂ in the 8th, bringing a sense of subliminal release through sex, but ♃ is also square to the ☽ in the 9th house, near the Midheaven, so the release soon revealed itself to be destructive to his inner emotional well being, as well as to his whole status in life.

The 1988 solar return (Figure 10) covers the time when David distanced himself from the Golden Dawn in June 1989 and was cursed in consequence. He was still employed in the State Theatre but beginning to feel an interior tension. He believes the schizophrenia began then though it was not formally diagnosed till late 1989 and he was hospitalized in early 1990.

In late 1988 or early 1989 David also had the UFO experience to which he alluded briefly when I first met him at the Welcome Club. He and ten other people were abducted in a semi-hypnotized condition by occupants of a UFO that late one evening landed near the building where they were. All were subjected to a physical examination (naked) and also underwent a sort of brainwashing process. The experience changed David's whole attitude to life, though I have never been able to get him to open up in more detail about this. He says it was a traumatic experience that he doesn't like to dwell on too much—in particular because his schizophrenia began almost immediately after it. He just *knows* now that UFOs do exist and that their occupants visit and communicate with the people of Earth. At some time in the future he might talk more about it.

The 1988 solar return actually makes a somewhat diffuse impression. It is a Splash-type chart, according to the Marc Edmund Jones classification, with the planets scattered here and there all over the figure instead of being focused on specific areas or houses. The ruler ♀ is close to the 11th cusp, squared by ♂ in the 1st and * ♄ at cusp 9. No doubt it took David some considerable time to come to a definite decision concerning how he felt about the Golden Dawn. The ☉'s trine to the 1st house ♂ but opposition to the ☽ in the 11th strengthens this impression. But ♀ in the 4th opposes ♃ ♂ ♃ so in the end he had no doubts—he needed to be out, but they would use all their weight to crush him as a result.

The 1989 solar return (Figure 11) shows this happening. ♃ (freedom) is in the 2nd house in close dissociate opposition to ♃ in the 8th. His op-

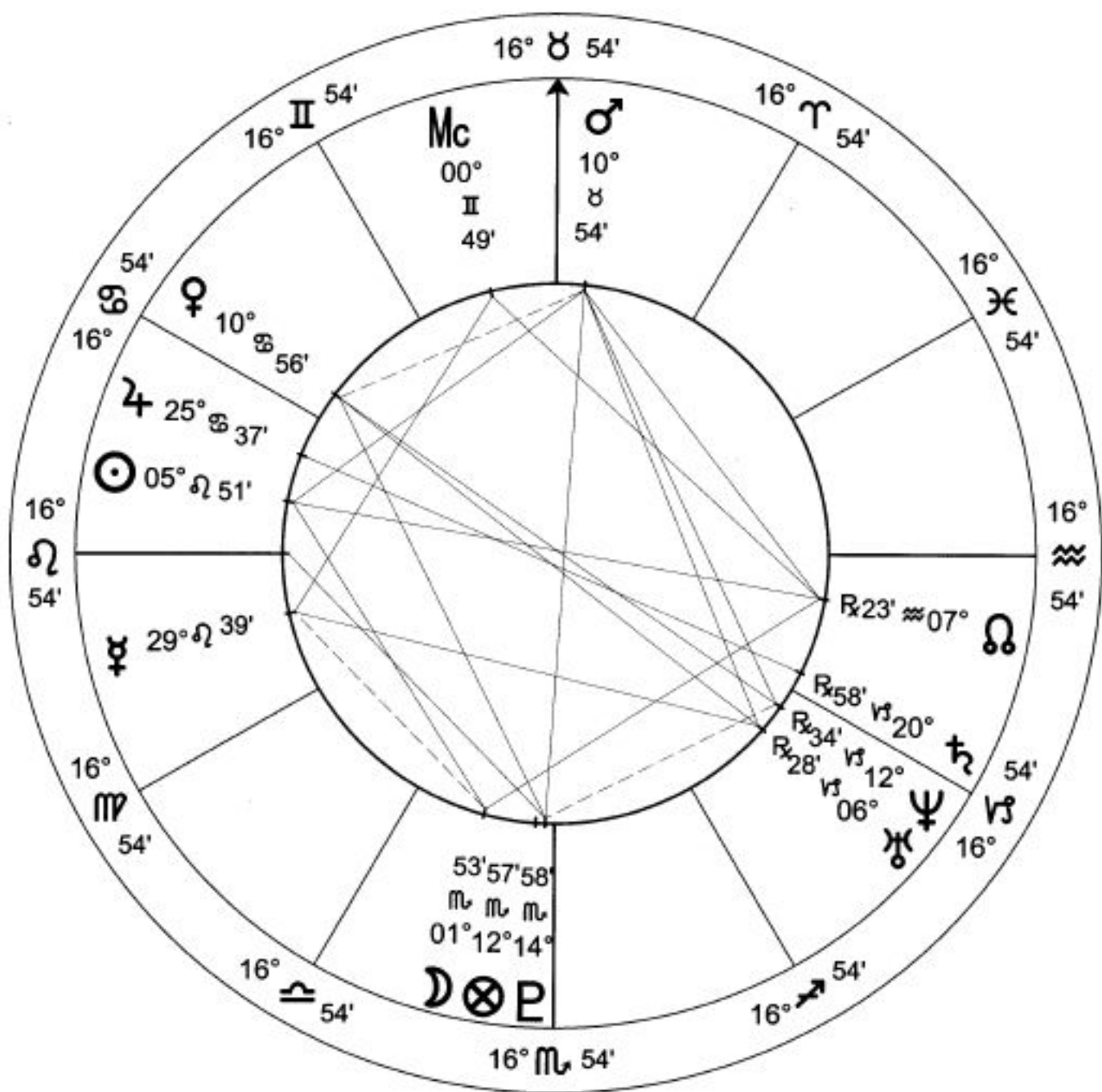


Figure 12: 1990 Solar Return

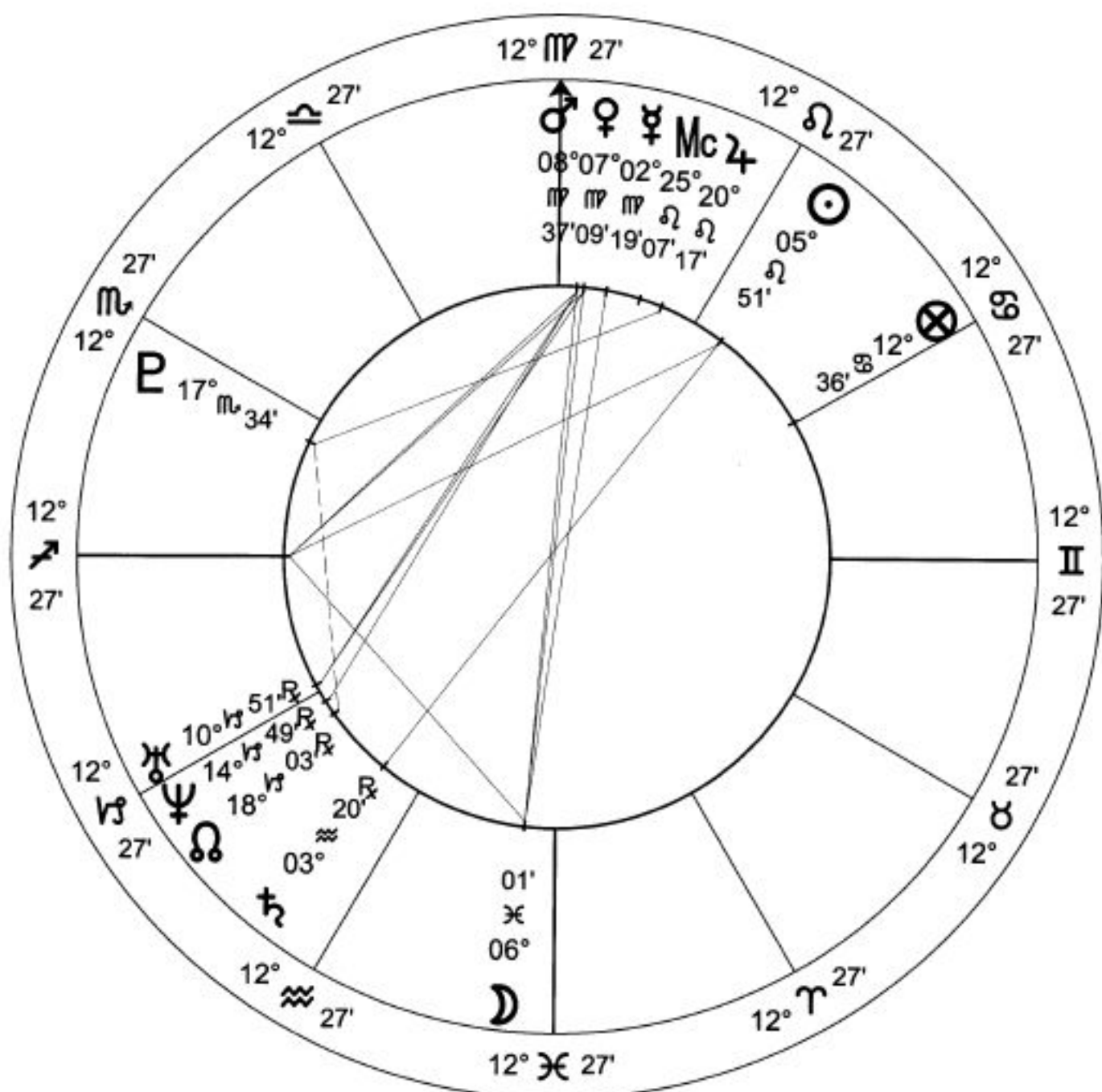


Figure 13: 1991 Solar Return

ponents would have killed David if they could for ♃ is ♂ ☿ and ♀, also in the 8th house. He was lucky. ♂, the 12th house ruler, is * ♄ from the 4th cusp, and the chart ruler ♀ is at the IC and △ ♃. That really illustrates what happened.

Psychiatric hospital wasn't fun but it had a totally unexpected nice outcome. It was while he was in there that David met Karla his future wife. Their daughter Micaela was born at 1:10 PM on 10th April 1991 in Johannesburg.

David has mentioned to me that people often say he has just answered a question they were on the point of asking him (I have experienced this with him on a few occasions). It was what happened with Karla when they first met. They sat together for four or five hours without either of them saying a word. At the end of that period Karla said, "You've told me all about yourself!"

They were married on 1st November 1991 (All Soul's Day) and started a successful business painting ostrich eggs and selling them. Although the going price for an ostrich egg was anything up to thirty rands David managed to find a farm where he could get them for ten rands. The farmer had crates and crates of them. They could be hand painted or painted by transfer and sold for sixty rands.

However, the psychiatric hospital saga was not yet over. Their second daughter had just been born, eight months after the marriage, when police showed up with two male nurses, dragged him off to the hospital and drugged him again. They continued to do this for three month stints until he met a chap named Dorian and he and Karla separated in February 1993.

By April-May 1993 he had started a shebeen (a semi-illegal liquor store and bar, mainly supplying Africans) in the Yeoville area of Johannesburg, with Dorian and two others. It went well and gave him time to take a week off now and then to drive imported stolen cars up from Zimbabwe to Zambia. The cars were stolen all over Europe with the organizer in Britain and were never more than three months old. Papers were organized in South Africa with police cooperation and David would get a phone call telling him the car was parked in such and such street with the keys behind the back wheel or in the exhaust pipe and that it was registered in his name. All he had to do was to drive it. The officials at the border would find everything in order. From Zambia the car would be exported to Australia or the Far East. BMW in South Africa encouraged thefts as all cars stolen in South Africa were covered by insurance so they never lost a cent, they just sold another unit.

There might be two or three of them together on the long trip up north, taking turns at the driving. On one occasion one of them produced a police identification card, but it was alright. He was just one of the crowd, in on the game. The cops and the crooks sat there and did business. "There is no such thing as an honest policeman," David says.

These were the people who registered the cars he drove up north. All on a need-to-know basis. He knows no names. Similarly up in Africa the Africans would be sending off railway containers full of dagga to Britain. Even if only one of them got through it would be worth ten million rand.

From Zambia the cars had to be driven to the port of Dar es Salaam in Tanzania and once again David was one of the team of drivers. And there was something else. At a university in Lusaka, Zambia, a substance called Red Mercury, a vital ingredient for the manufacture of atomic bombs, was being synthesized to be sent on to Iran. A big container of it would be packed into the back of one of the cars to be driven down to Dar es Salaam. They were warned on no account should this be opened as the contents were intensely radio active, that the smallest pinch of it would be lethal. Their convoy was hit by two rockets just outside Bulawayo in Zimbabwe and all eight drivers were killed. By a miracle David was not one of them that time.

Until then he had believed he could get away with anything but this incident and an earlier slightly different one altered his mind. He had never troubled about what was in the packages but just took them from here to there. But now his eyes were becoming opened. Four weeks before the rocketing he had been in the far north of Zambia on its border with Zaire where a syndicate knew everything about what was happening. They were dangerous. They were known to stop a car at a military road block, confiscate the car and kill the driver, leaving his body in the bush. And they had road blocks everywhere. But give them a packet of cigarettes and they would usually ignore anything. This time, however, they arrested David's friend Dorian and took him to Lusaka where he was put into a jail full of prisoners suffering from meningitis. Then, after three days, he was released into David's custody, suffering from something that raised enormous blisters on his arms. Cortisone cream took these away but he suddenly died on the evening of 25th May 1994, the very day the Golden Dawn's curse was to have expired. The two of them had spoken about it that very afternoon. There had been a full moon earlier that day.

There was no apparent reason for the death but David was semi-officially held as a murder suspect. All he wanted to do was to get out of Lusaka, back to South Africa, and there was no official reason to prevent this but the airline refused to issue him his ticket for the direct flight until after the plane had taken off. He was certain something was being covered up and made a scene. Eventually he was given a ticket to Johannesburg, but now via Zimbabwe. After that he had only one priority in life—to keep a low profile.

Not many of us would regard a year of going back and forth into a psychiatric hospital as uneventful but by comparison with the three following years 1990 really was. In David's solar return for that year (Figure 12) ♀ in the 11th house opposes ♀ and ♂ in the 5th, while ☿ just into

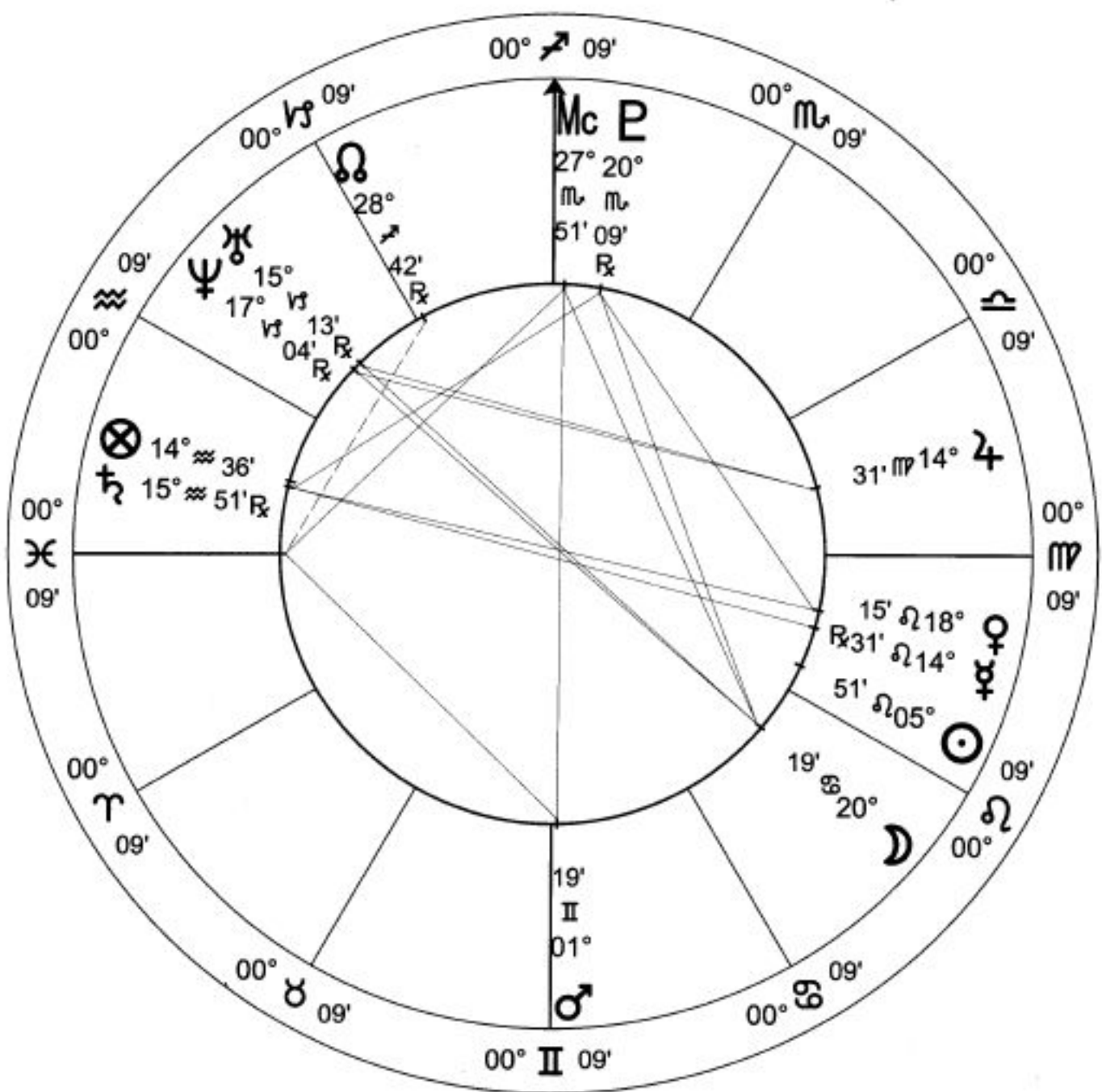


Figure 14:

1992 Solar Return

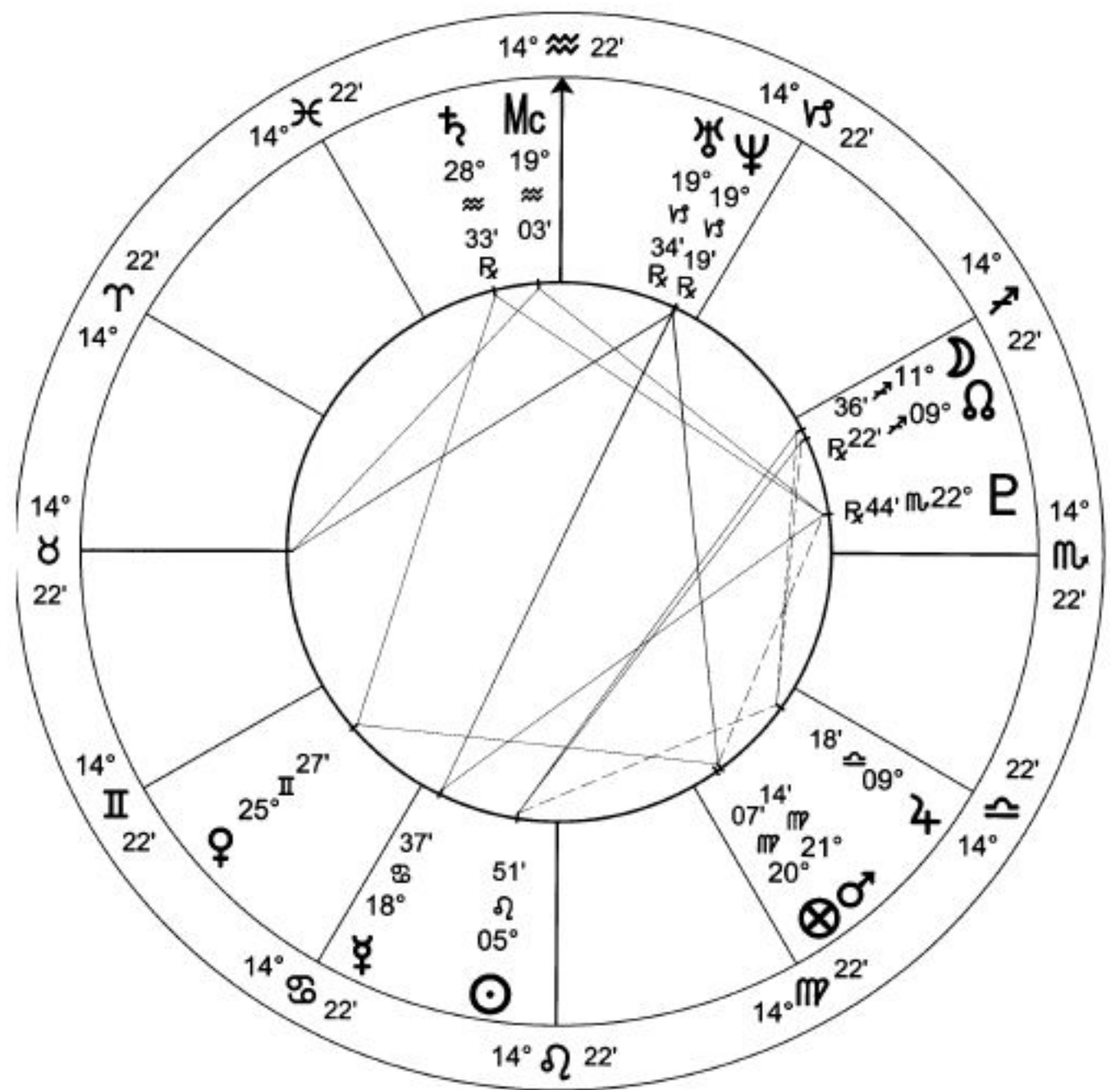


Figure 15:

1993 Solar Return

the 6th opposes ♃ in the 12th. ♂ in the 9th opposes the ☊ and ♀ in the 3rd, near cusp 4. ♂ also mitigates the ♀ ♂ ☊-♄ by sextile and trine, perhaps indicating Micaela's birth, and on the whole the chart gives the impression of a somewhat weak aspect linkage. Thus the ☊ threatens to measure up and transform the ♂ ♂ ♀-☊ into a fixed T-square but though his square to ♂ is close enough his contacts with ♀ and ☊ are doubtful. ♀ only has a dissociate square to the MC and otherwise nothing. Certainly it was a nasty year—one to grit one's teeth at—but mainly it was a year to shudder and look forward to passing on to the next.

In the 1991 solar return year (Figure 13) David married Karla and Micaela was born but suddenly he was forcibly dragged back into hospital. ♂ and ♀ are conjunct near the equal-house 10th cusp opposed by the ☊, possibly indicating the marriage and birth (♂ rules the 5th), but ♀ is in the 12th squared by ♃ at the MC so his reputation was “schizophrenic: shut him up”. Even so the couple did get the ostrich-egg-painting business going, ☊ and ♄ straddling cusp 2 trined by ♂ and ♀ from cusp 10, and it made money. But ♃ opposes the ☊, closely—under which aspect one cannot assert oneself or be oneself. The ☊ at cusp 8 is opposed by ☊ and ♄ too, and the couple found themselves burdened by debts run up by someone else, a pattern that would be repeated in later years.

The 1992 solar return (Figure 14) covers the three-month stints in hospital up until David met with Dorian, after which he and Karla separated in February 1993. This was followed by the starting of the shebeen in April-May and occasional car trips up to Zambia. ♃ is in the 12th, where he joys making trouble, conjunct ☊ and opposite ♄ and ♀ in the 6th. No relationship can do well under a configuration like that, and ♀ up in the 9th clinches the matter by transforming the opposition into a fixed T-square. Nevertheless David and Karla still had positive feelings for each other and were destined to see more of one another in future years—♃ in 7th trine ☊ ♂ ♄ in 11th with ♀ between them sextile to both. The ☊ is sextile ♂, indicating more energy than in the previous year with its ☊ ♂ ♃. Even so, for the moment David's emotional life was shattered, as was only to be expected with the ☊ in the 5th opposing ☊ and ♄.

The 1993 return continues the shebeen and Zambian car trip story right up until the death of Dorian on 25th May 1994 and the rocket attack on the Red Mercury convoy near Bulawayo the following month. Another interesting anecdote is worth recording here. David had acquired a new house beside the original one that housed the shebeen. A man named Jinks managed the old one, now entirely catering for Africans. George, a devotee of the old Teutonic gods, Odin and others, from the Black Forest in Germany, also became associated with them. They were all together in the old house one evening cashing up, accompanied by a policeman who was also involved. Suddenly a spirit dropped through the roof into the policeman. Speaking through him it said it wasn't satisfied with what they had done to the house (i.e. serving only Africans). It

wanted it made back into what it was before. They were all terrified and Jinks disappeared for three months. The policeman shot himself after a week.

You may believe what you like about the spirit but the suicide was real enough.

Unexpectedly the 1993 return (Figure 15) is in many ways a strongly positive one. ♄ and ♀ in the 9th are opposed by ♁ in the 3rd but they are linked by an extended fan of sextiles involving first ♀ in the 7th and then ♂ (♂ ⊗) in the 5th. ♀, the chart ruler, in the 2nd is trine to ♄ in the 10th. The ♄, close to cusp 8, is in another fan of sextiles with ♄ in the 5th and the ☉ in the 3rd. It looks as though something didn't want these favorable indications to go ahead and expand. One must also note ♀ in the 2nd widely quincunx to ♀ in the 7th, who also has a square from ♄, which may be indicating Dorian's death. The ☉ in the 3rd house is also semisquare to ♂ in the 5th. I believe the whole picture says that David would enjoy most of his year. He would feel that everything was going his way, that he was bound to come out on top in anything he was involved in, however dubious. But then the Israeli secret service, the Mossad, would interfere with the Red Mercury transport to Iran and by the end of the all he would want to do would be to get out. Despite all these sextiles, ♄ and ♀ would finally get the message through to his mind (♁ in 3rd) that there would be some very unpleasant developments unless he did. Really he was lucky that he was able to stay alive long enough to get that two-stage hop from Lusaka to Johannesburg.

Two weeks before Dorian died David had met Rocky, a woman who was into deep psychism. She was an Indian-Portuguese cross. She was able to tell him things she somehow knew about him that shook him. It wasn't long before he decided to avoid her, despite a feeling of fascination. She had too much of the atmosphere of the disasters of the closing months of that year of his life hanging about her. Perhaps the ♄ near cusp 8 and the ♀ square to ♂ had something to do with her.

In November 1994, five and a half months after Dorian died, David and Karla got together again. She had run the ostrich egg business into the ground but he was able to start it up once more. A year later they split up again but had yet another go after another six months. ♄ rules the marriage house in David's birth chart, and it is ♂ ♀ and ♂ ♄. One can only try and try again under such a configuration. David says they were too alike. Karla then moved to Cape Town while he stayed on and supplied the Eastern Transvaal with ostrich eggs. Her father in law by a previous marriage had died leaving huge debts that they had to cover.

While still in the Transvaal David met up with an organization called The Prophet, consisting of open minded people not bound by rigid Christian doctrine. Unfortunately he gradually found that they wanted him to hold the stage and lecture to them, so he slipped away. The organization had been started by a woman who had a bookshop in Pretoria. One day

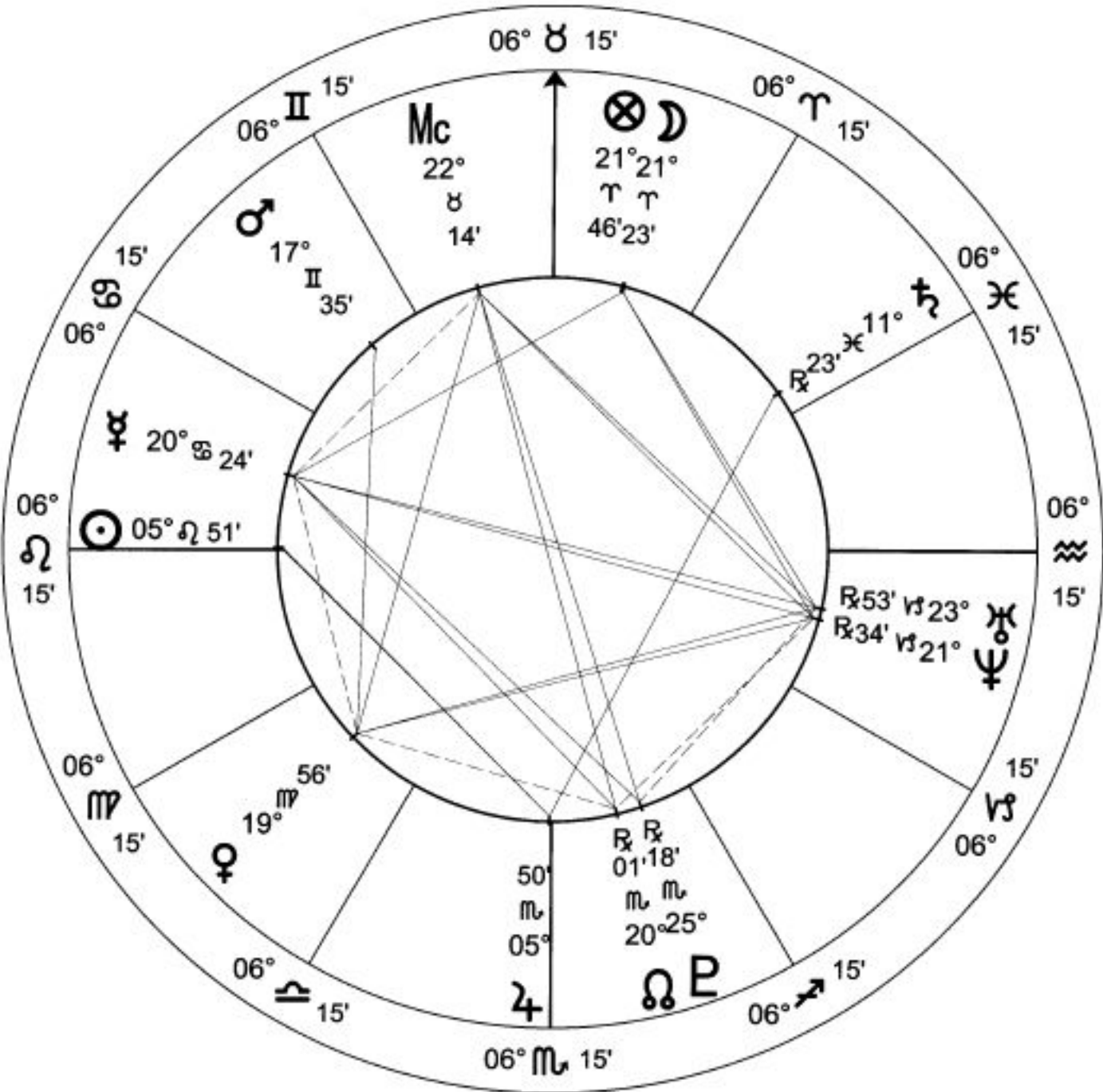


Figure 16: 1994 Solar Return

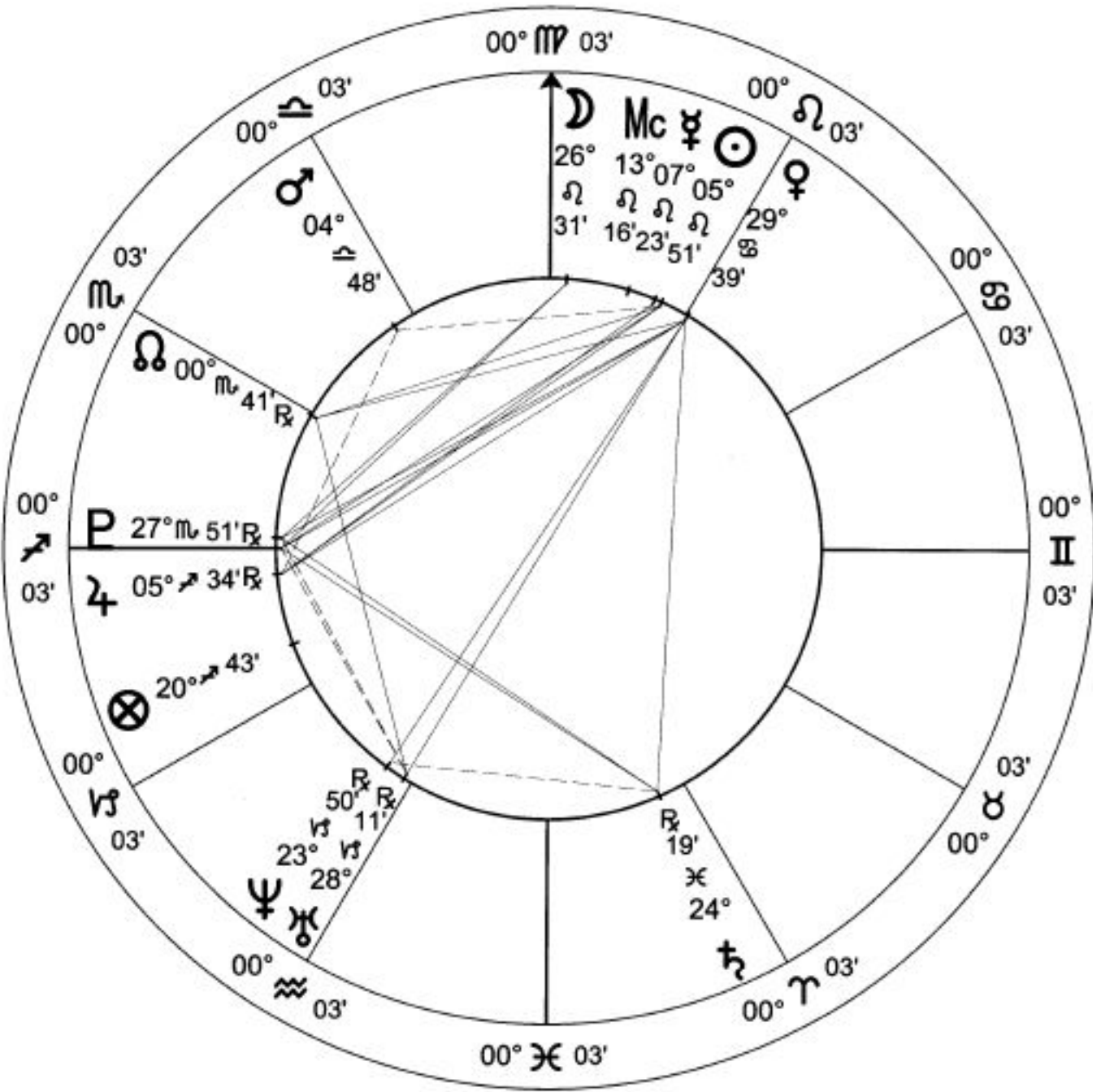


Figure 17: 1995 Solar Return

someone had attacked them with a hammer, killing her husband and two of her children. She and one son survived but both had badly damaged skulls.

David followed Karla to Cape Town in January 1997, some six months after her, and for a short time he had a street business selling astrological charts stamped on flat disks like coins. The idea had come to him while he was tripping on acid. He had a good computer program to calculate the charts and a punch to punch in the planet symbols on the disks. He included an interpretation of the charts, which could be hung around the neck, as he supplied them, and the business did well. People commented how accurate they were. Unquestionably he has an innovative business sense with ♀, his MC-ruler, clustered with ♄ and ♀ round the 2nd house cusp of his birth chart. But with ♄ opposing them it is usually dicey, and this proved to be no exception. Street children (teenage vagrants) tried to steal his laptop computer and threw it across the street. It was smashed and he did not have R22,000 for another one, so that was that.

The 1994 solar return (Figure 16) covers the reunion of David and Karla in November of that year and most of their ensuing year together again. The ☉ is right on the Ascendant as in the birth chart, clearly showing that, whatever was happening exteriorly, David was being himself. The ☉ exactly squares ♄ on the equal-house 4th cusp and there is a cardinal T-square involving ♄ ♅ ♁ in the 6th opposed to ♀ in the 12th, all square to the ☽ and ☊ in the 9th. What does a schizophrenic do under a configuration like that? “The best he can” is of course the only answer. David wanted to pursue occult and metaphysical interests (☽ ♅ in the 9th, ♀ in the 12th) and fortunately Karla shared some of this interest. In fact in some way she led the chase with an extraordinary ability to meet interesting people as well as a nose for smelling out just the right mind-expanding books at just the right time. But they also fought over the very interests they shared, for ♄ in the T-square rules the marriage house. And notice ♄ in the 8th house. Karla’s father in law’s debts were already proving to be a heavy weight they had to carry. And ♂ squares ♀ while she is herself semisquare to ♄ in the 4th. Home life certainly wasn’t easy and it is little wonder they parted again after another year.

The next year, beginning July 1995 (Figure 17), was in many ways a better one. The couple parted for six months but then got together again, though Karla soon moved off to Cape Town while David stayed on in the Transvaal to earn money to pay the debts. They seem to have done better reunited but apart. ♀ in the 8th, on cusp 9, has a nasty opposition to ♄-♅ on cusp 3 but it is ♄-♅ and trine to ♀, bringing out the benefit of the 9th-3rd apartheid. ♄ on the 5th cusp is doing exactly the same thing, saying “You can have love, but accept the disciplined apartness that must go with it.” In effect ♀ becomes the handle of a Fan spread by ♀, ♄-♅ and ♄, for she is actually in a Grand trine in Water with ♀ and ♄.

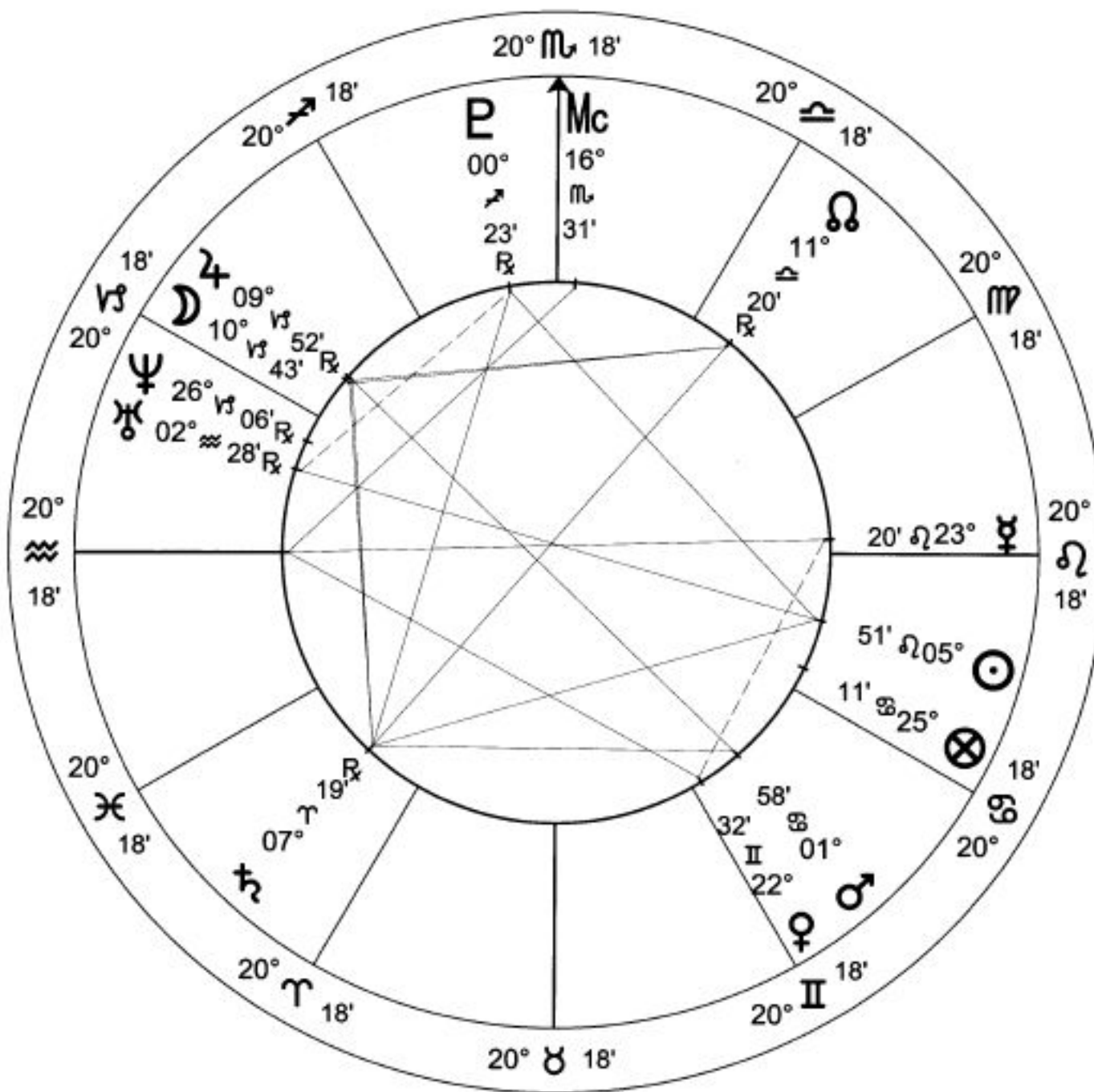


Figure 18:

1996 Solar Return

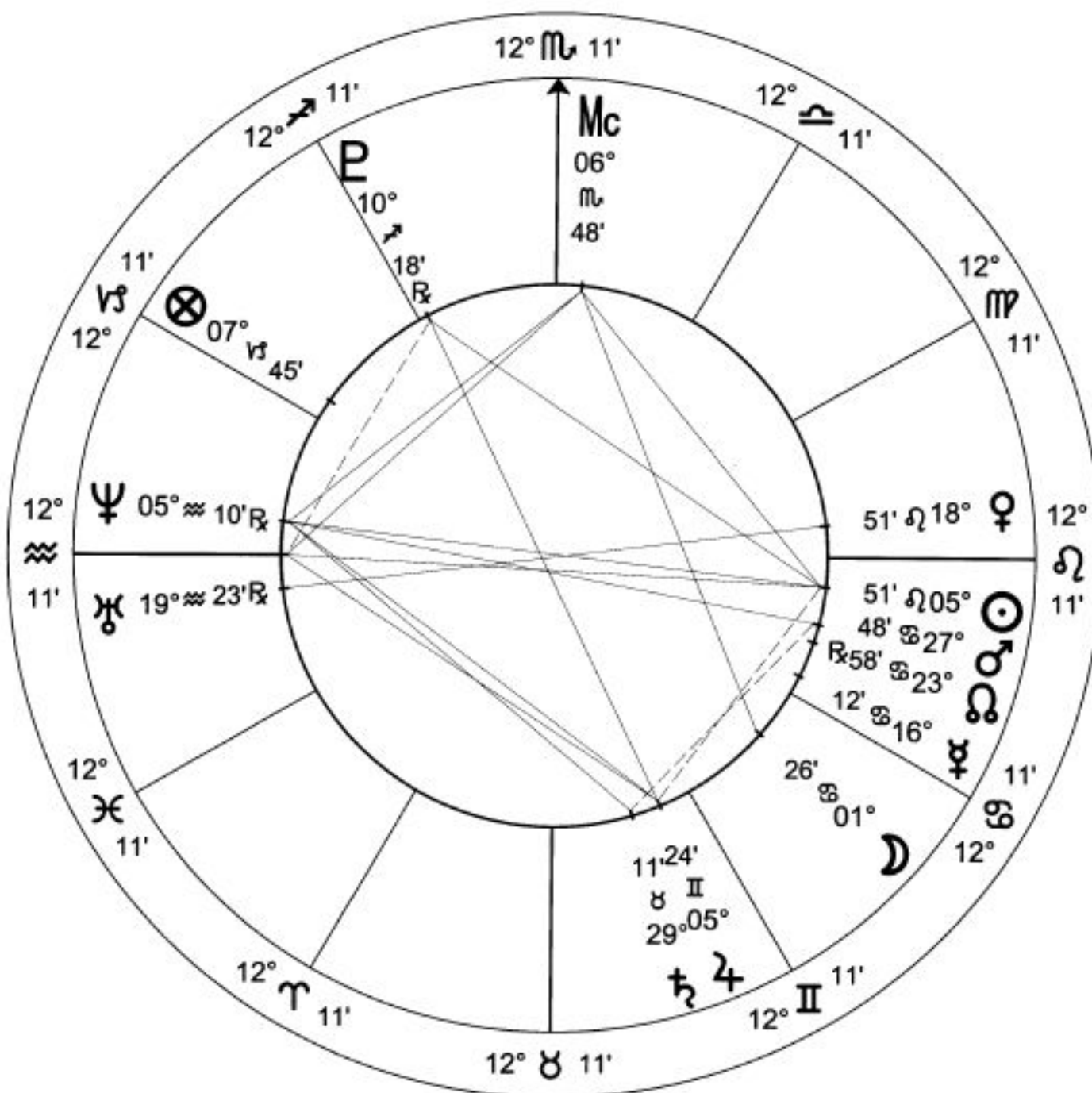


Figure 19:

2000 Solar Return

The solar return for 1996 (Figure 18) covers David's move to join Karla in Cape Town in January 1997 and the brief street business selling astrological charts stamped on coins. It began well as one would expect with ♃ in the 2nd linked by a Grand Trine in Fire with ♄ in the 10th and the ☉ in the 6th, but it couldn't last since ♃ is squared by ♅ and the ♀ from the 11th and ♄ in the 7th is sesquiquadrate to all three of them. We can just hear Karla saying "Really! Why couldn't you look after the computer better than that?!!" And there is the important Yod figure formed by the sextile from ♃ in the 12th house to ♄ in the 10th with both of them in quincunx to ♀ in the 5th, the pointer of the Yod. In April 1997 David went back into hospital in Cape Town for a short spell. He had been off his medication for two years and was going through hell with Roxane, Karla's daughter by a previous marriage, who was playing up. It caused him to have a breakdown.

After that brief disaster the couple managed to stay together fairly successfully for the next three years with the ostrich egg business supporting them financially. Then, in April 2000, they again separated and David went off to the Transkei for a year. It was a profound experience to live with the rural people there. They are still hunter-gatherers like our forbears of 40,000 years ago. They have no connection whatever with modern civilization and democracy. Instinctively they look for someone in authority. But they fully accepted the fact that David heard voices. That made him one of them—they all heard their ancestors' voices.

He returned to Cape Town in April 2001 and lived in a run-down boarding house in a suburb for four months till he was admitted to a Comcare (Community care for ex-metal hospital patients) house in September. He still stays in one of their houses. As a result of his schizophrenia he has been a ward of state since 1990. This entitles him to a tiny state grant, 80% of which is taken by the Comcare authorities. Even so, he could not possibly afford to live and pay rent elsewhere.

Nowadays David has almost no possessions. He doesn't want anything. When he went to the Transkei he got rid of his watch and his shaving mirror since he had no more interest in either time or his appearance.

Until recently he would visit Karla every six weeks or so. She is living with their two children in Hermanus, a sea-coast village about forty kilometers from Cape Town. Roxane, her eldest child, now lives with a boy friend. However, Karla is moving to Knysna, a small town over 200 miles to the south-east, so visits will be fewer.

A strange new development however is that around about the time of his 2002 birthday he received a phone call. The voice said, "Hallo, I'm your mother." It was their first contact for 35 years. She said she would like them to meet but he is not sure he wants to. She has a chicken farm with 8,000 laying hens near Kruger National Park and can hear lions

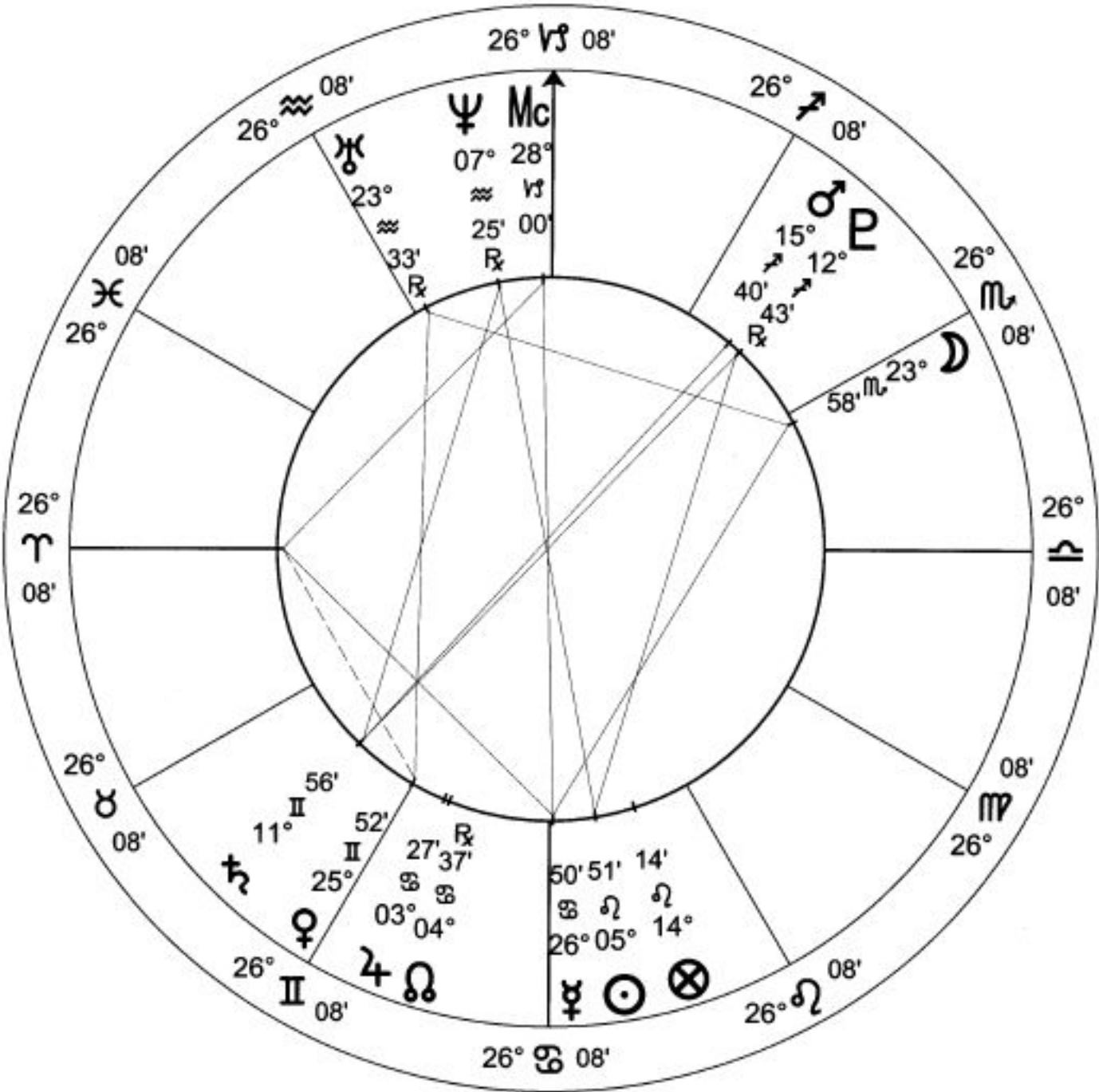


Figure 20: 2001 Solar Return

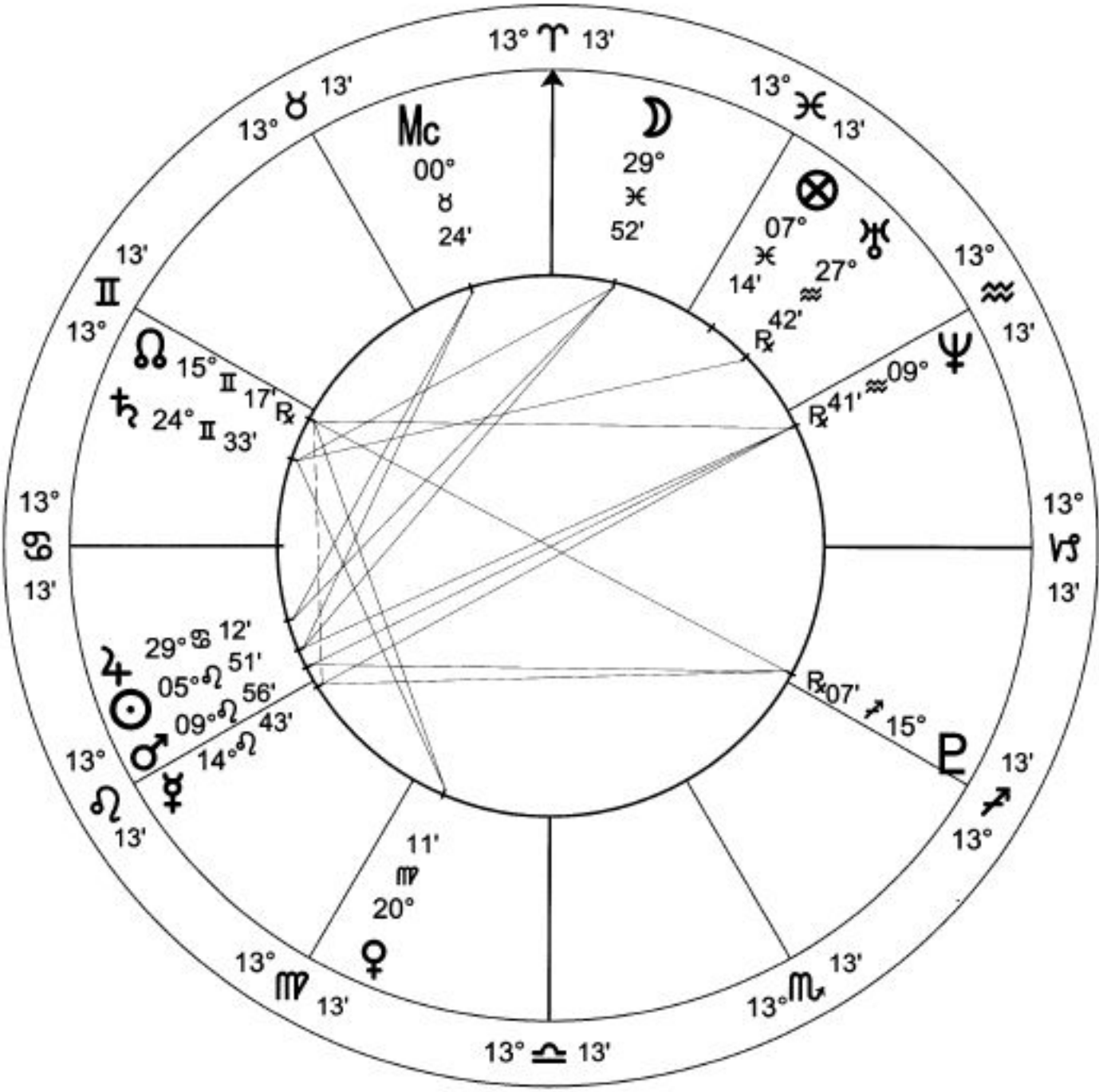


Figure 21: 2002 Solar Return

roaring at night. She complains of shortage of money although she has just bought a R150,000 delivery van. So far the contact is limited to periodic phone calls.

He tells me he still smokes a joint (dagga) twice a day, well away from the Comcare house where it is against the rules, but someone is spying on him and has reported this—quite possibly they can smell the distinctive smell on his clothes. If it gets worse he will leave Cape Town for the Transkei again for another six months and then come back again. Dagga smoking is an accepted custom among rural Africans.

David feels pulled two ways, and it is interesting that the solar returns for the last three years, 2000-2002, are all seesaw-type charts by the Marc Edmund Jones' classifications..

The 2000 return (Figure 19), which covers most of his stay in the Transkei after the April 2000 split (possibly final) from Karla, shows the Ascendant straddled by ♀ and ♂ with ♀ also squaring the MC and exactly opposite the ☉—appropriate indications of almost totally turning his back on modern civilized life. It has meant loss of contact with his home and children as well though, as shown clearly enough by ♄ in detriment in ♀ in the 4th, ♂ ♃ and ♂ ♄. ♀, ruler of the 5th house (children) is in the 6th with almost no aspects and the ♃ in the 5th also makes no aspects.

In that year the seesaw was between the east and west, between David himself and others with whom he was associated. The following year, 2001 (see Figure 20), it was between the diurnal and nocturnal hemispheres, the outer world and the interior, subjective world. He had returned to Cape Town in April and was admitted to the Comcare house in September, but in himself he felt detached, with no interest in possessions, money or work. The ☉ is down in the 4th house in dissociate conjunction with ♀ (♏ IC) and closely opposed by ♀ from the 10th—this was really a transit opposition to the natal ☉ that operated between 2000 and 2002. ♂ and ♄ up in the 8th house oppose ♃ in the 2nd. David has no job, and though his ex-wife (they are now divorced) and children really do require money he has none to give them. The exact square from the ♃ on cusp 8 to ♂ on cusp 11 confirms his position and the divorce. The ♃ is also quincunx to ♀ on cusp 3. All relationship contacts are few and far between. Really this is quite a classic indication of schizophrenia—not a split mind or multiple personalities but a distancing from most aspects of ordinary reality.

The 2002 return (Figure 21) is a bit like a combination of the last two, with the split between both east-west and nocturnal-diurnal. The ☉ ♂ ♀ is a bit wider but it is made up for by the fact that the ☉ conjoins ♂ near cusp 2 and ♂ is exactly opposite ♀. ♀ is involved as well, ♂ ♂ and ♂ ♀, though he does also closely trine ♄ on cusp 6. The schizophrenia is possibly receding a bit, but David is unable to work or earn money. ♀ is in the 3rd house square to both ♃ in the 12th and ♄ in the 6th, though ♃ and ♄ are out of orb of an opposition. Nevertheless, ♀ shows clearly enough

how David's mental illness is presently making him unable to sustain a relationship.

The 9th house ♅ is exactly trine to ♃ in the 1st but it also squares ♅ in the 12th, while ♄ in the 8th is quincunx ♃ and in trine to ♅. David comes across as a likeable, cheerful chap (♅ △ ♃), with an amazing intelligence and a fund of interesting knowledge and ideas (♅ △ ♄, ♀ to ♁) but he cannot really be or do anything—♁, the indicator of one's main interest and vocation in life, only has quincunxes to the ☉ and ♂ and a weak square to ♀). Even so an afternoon's conversation with David is well worthwhile, even if it is only to hear about the things he has learnt and the people he has met in the course of his outrageous life. For instance, 80% of the people at rave concerts are on hallucinogens, he says. The organizers find out where earth-energy points are to locate the event, for dancing people give off energy and there may be 20,000 people at a rave show. They are only allowed so many beats per second in the music because beyond that the sound becomes hypnotic. That's really worth knowing, isn't it?



Each day after birth means one year; two days two years, and so on. It follows from this that the ☉ should be directed on the ecliptic according to its diurnal motion, the Midheaven by right ascension; the Ascendant by oblique ascension, and always, referring to the birth hour, to the right ascension of the directed place of the ☉; thus the horoscope is always to be recast anew. The ♅ must also be directed on the ecliptic, consistent with the diurnal motion of the ☉. The ♁ (the wheel of fortune) must, however, be eliminated or not be directed, because it is not a celestial body nor a part of the sky. One should also desist from directing the remaining planets, because they do not have, of themselves, anything in common with the earth's motion.

—**Johannes Kepler** (*Tertius Interveniens*, 1610) trans. Ken Negus

Books Considered

Under One Sky

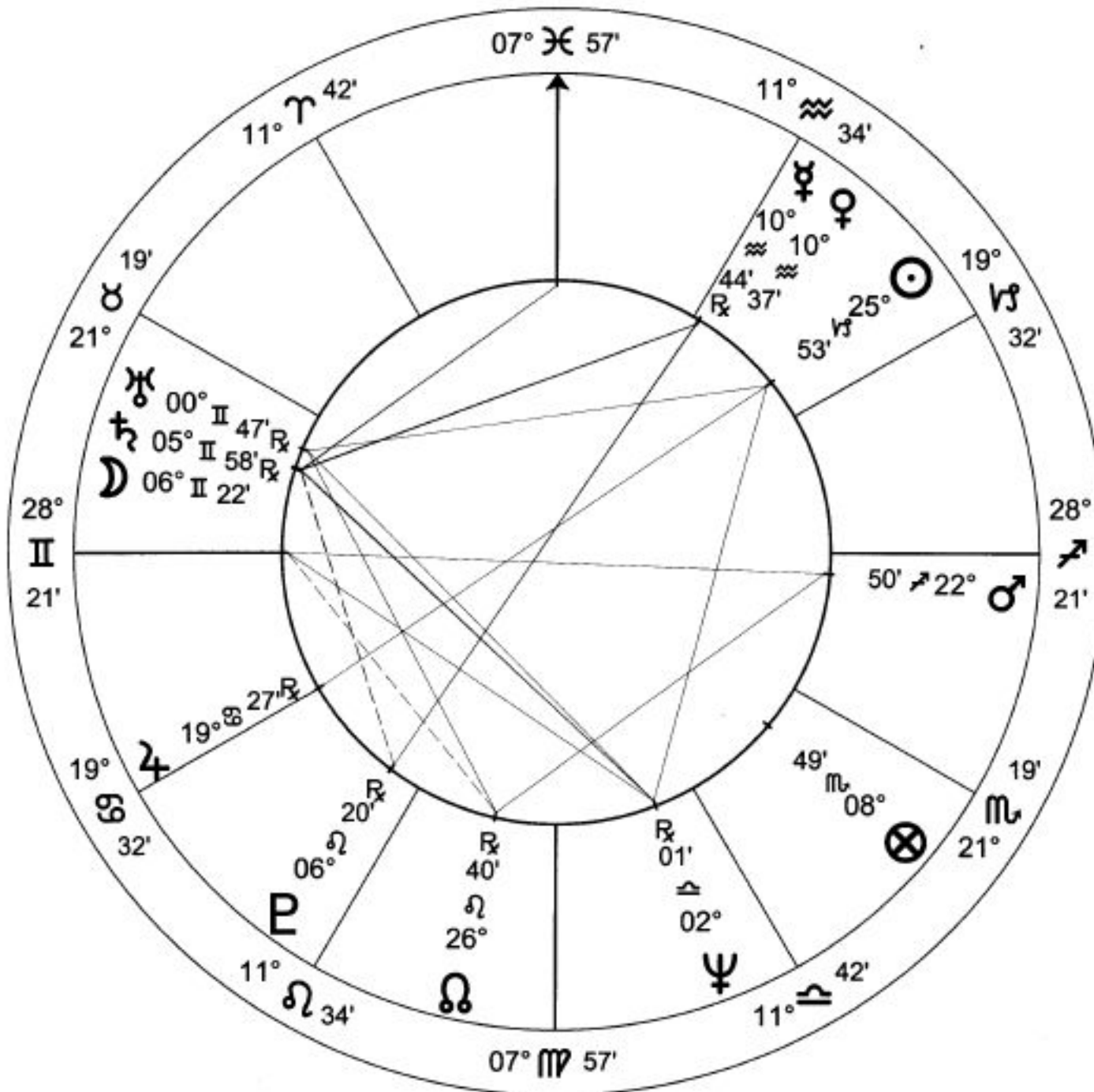
by **Rafael Nasser**

Seven Paws Press, PO Box 2345, Chapel Hill NC 27516

489 pages, paperback, 2004. \$24.95

TWELVE astrologers from different traditions interpret the same woman's birth chart, working blind. All they know is her birth data. The astrologers involved, together with their stated approach, are: Wendy Ashley (mythological), Ken Bowser (western sidereal), Gary Christen (uranian), Ronnie Gale Dreyer (vedic), Hadley Fitzgerald (psychological), Steven Forrest (evolutionary), Demetra George (asteroid centered), Robert Hand (medieval), John Marchesella (modern western), Evelyn Roberts (archetypal), Kim Rogers-Gallagher (light-hearted) and Robert Schmidt (hellenistic).

The data they had to work with was: female, born 4:18 PM CST on 16th January 1943 at Prior, Oklahoma: 36N19, 95W19. So that readers can better appreciate what was involved in this blind interpretation the associated chart is shown here:



The book is divided into three major Parts, with a prologue and epilogue.

Part I will interest many readers. It is devoted to the twelve astrologers themselves and provides their responses to several questions posed

by Nasser. It is always intriguing to learn more about different members of our guild: their background, how they came to astrology and their approach to the various philosophical problems Astrology poses.

Part 2 is the woman's own story, her 45-page autobiography written especially for this book. We learn that she is a healer, who as a young child was abused by her father; that she has been twice married but has no children, that she experienced painful spinal problems as a result of a car crash, and that she has spent much time overseas, once briefly immigrating to New Zealand.

Part 3 consists of the astrologers' blind interpretations. This 330-page section is books' main feature. I read what each had to say but had some difficulty evaluating their comments, especially when it came to their descriptions of the woman's personality traits. These seem to have been accurately identified for the most part, but clients I see don't really care about such things. They knew all there was to know about their own personal quirks long before they made an appointment. Now they are more concerned about specific items in their futures: money and love usually being at the top of their list.

I decided to create a tally sheet for six life-defining happenings in the woman's life, noting whether or not an astrologer identified these.

The abuse by the father, which I relate to $\sigma \circ A_5$ and $\odot \circ \text{♋}$'s antiscion, was correctly identified by Evelyn Roberts and Ronnie Gale Dryer. Demetra George was close but not specific. The others either completely ignored or were utterly wrong about this relationship.

The absence of children (being a nullipara) and the associated sorrow and disappointment ($\text{♄} \circ \text{♋}$ in 12th and 5th-ruler, ♀, in a ♋ sign) was clearly identified by Robert Hand, but of the others only Demetra George and Evelyn Roberts came close. Several entirely ignored this subject, despite its obvious importance to any woman outside of a nunnery!

Divorce and remarriage (σ in ♊ close to 7th cusp, 7th-ruler retrograde, and A_5 -ruler in 3rd from 7th $\circ$ ♀) was correctly described by only Gary Christen, Robert Hand and Ronnie Gale Dryer.

The spinal problems resulting from a car crash (σ in 6th ruled by ♋, the first body to rise after birth) was hinted at by Ken Bowser—"poor health"—but no one else came even that close. Of interest to users of the Septenary, the two spinal operations occurred at ages 49 and 50, the key Hinge Years of a person's life, ruled here by ♋.

That the woman was a healer (MC-ruler, ♋, Δ MC by sign and disposed by the 12th house ♄) was identified by only Demetra George and Evelyn Roberts.

No one commented on the frequent lengthy overseas trips or the attempt to immigrate (Ψ in 4th, ♀ the ASC-ruler $\circ$ cusp 9, ♋ first to rise).

Not a great success rate. Six of the astrologers, Hedley Fitzgerald, John Marchesella, Kim Rogers-Gallagher, Robert Schmidt, Steven Forrest and Wendy Ashley, failed to identify any of these six major life happenings. Is it asking too much to expect they should have?

Even so, each of these twelve astrologers is to be highly commended for agreeing to perform in public as they did. This is especially so as seemingly they usually work face-to-face with a client, an approach that allows them to conceal any lack of astrological knowledge and/or ability and use clues from the ongoing conversation to avoid making utter fools of themselves in their interpretation of the chart.

This is a fascinating book: a showcase of the state of the Astrology as practiced at the start of the new millennium. As a comparison of different approaches it highlights some very basic differences. For example, should a chart be interpreted planet by planet, or house by house? Only Robert Hand and Ronnie Gale Dreyer employ the later approach.

Buy Nasser's book, read it, but be sure to keep it far away from anyone prone to criticize astrology—the evidence it contains about today's level of astrological know-how could make them insufferable.

—Ken Gillman

Titanic Astrology

by Eileen Grimes

Little Shave Press, 2400 NW 80th Street, PMB 109, Seattle WA 98137

260 pages, paperback, 2004. \$16.95



THE ASTROLOGY of the *Titanic* disaster has over the years been a much discussed subject for astrologers. Frequent articles on the subject have appeared in the journals. It was the subject matter for one of the lessons of the late Olivia Barclay's Qualified Horary Practitioner (QHP) course: I vividly recall casting the various prior lunations and eclipses, then relating these to the launch and collision charts and identifying a particularly malefic fixed star, *Scheat*, which was clearly involved in this disaster.

Eileen Grimes' book is not more of the same. Indeed, lunations and fixed stars go unmentioned, and the only reference I saw to an eclipse was to the one that occurred some days after the *Titanic* had sunk. Instead, the author uses the collision chart as her 'master chart' and identifies the ♀ □ ♀ at 21° ♄-♄ in it as being the key degree area—this is then given a somewhat lop-sided orb and 19°-25° of the Cardinals are termed "the *Titanic* degree points". Readers may be familiar with this space as the location of ♄'s nodes.

We're told that "Having researched and examined over 1,000 astrological charts, Eileen Grimes reveals the *Titanic*'s 'astrological signature'—the *Titanic* degrees—found in 83% of the birth charts of the ship's passengers and crew." This is impressive.

There is some good data here: that of the previous ships of the White Star Line, of the liner's owners and of various passengers and crew on the ill-fated ocean liner. The description of the ship's brief maiden voyage is also very readable.

—Ken Gillman

Who ?

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John Frawley is an astrological consultant and teacher with students in six continents. He is known in the UK for the accuracy of his televised predictions, notably not only the results, but even the correct scores of soccer matches; a convincing demonstration that his methods work. He is the author of *The Real Astrology* and *The Real Astrology Applied*. Contact him at j@apprentice.demon.co.uk.

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Ken Paone has been actively studying planetary influences on the weather for some fourteen years. His analyses of important past weather patterns and predictions of hurricanes and tropical storms have appeared in several astrological magazines. Ken can be contacted at kensweather@msn.com

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Prier Wintle is a consulting astrologer with many years’ experience. His writings have appeared in the leading astrological journals. Prier has worked in England, New Zealand and South Africa. He currently lives in Cape Town.

